

Your Name: Adam Zelmer

Tentative title of your thesis: Vertical Challenges: Managing Climbing in Banff National Park

Supervisor's name or names if co-supervised: Dr. Courtney Mason

Committee member's names: Dr. Wendy Gardner, Jon Heshka

Abstract of your research: This research examines how climbing is governed and managed in Banff National Park and how environmentally sustainable climbing management might be achieved into the future. Rockclimbing is experiencing an unprecedented boom in global popularity, and visitation to Banff National park by all forms of park users, including climbers, appears to increase year over year with no end in sight. This research examines how the activity of recreational climbing is currently managed In Banff, examines the intersection of environmental management objectives, regulatory prosecution and enforcement mechanisms, and stakeholder goals and input to explore the hypothesis that any climbing management approach that is developed for Banff needs to enable climbing sport participants and developers to proactively engage with land managers to advance environmental management goals