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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE****Adaptive Athletes Overcome Disabilities to Climb the 13,776-foot Grand Teton**

**GRAND TETON NATIONAL PARK, WY** (Aug. 29, 2014) – On September 5th, six disabled athletes will ascend the 13,776-foot Grand Teton in Wyoming with Paradox Sports and Exum Mountain Guides. The participants have a range of disabilities, from amputations to paralyzed extremities, requiring special techniques and gear to climb the mountain.

One participant, Vasu Sojitra, was diagnosed with septicemia when he was nine months old and had to have his leg amputated. Despite the challenges he has faced with an above-knee amputation, Sojitra has pursued a life of adventure and has been featured as a skier in [Powder Magazine](#) and [Backcountry Magazine](#).

Another participant, [Jon Sedor](#), recently took first place in the upper extremity amputee division at Paraclimbing Nationals, an up-and-coming rock climbing competition for adaptive athletes. In 2013, Jon took gold at the Paraclimbing World Cup in London, and is now expanding his efforts to the Grand Teton to attempt a different style of climbing.

All of these participants have one thing in common – they have an injury that can be considered a disability, but they do not want to let it stop them from doing what they love. Paradox Sports, the organization that runs the trip, has been leading adaptive sports programs since 2007 and this is the third annual adaptive summit of the Grand Teton. Paradox Sports was started by Major D.J. Skelton and professional rock climber Timmy O’Neill when the two met in the adaptive rock climbing community. They have partnered with Exum Mountain Guides for the last three years and just completed a similar Grand Teton trip that was only open to injured veterans.

## **Paradox Sports**

Paradox Sports is a Colorado-based non-profit founded in 2007 by Tim O'Neill and D.J. Skelton to improve people's lives by creating physical adaptive sport communities built to inspire. Focusing on open-source curriculums, adaptive trips, and community building, the organization is breaking down barriers for veterans and people with paraplegia, amputated limbs, and other disabilities to help them climb, hike, and enjoy the outdoors. For more information, visit [paradoxsports.org](http://paradoxsports.org).

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