

Contact:

Madeline Pickering
Public Relations Director
madeline@paradoxsports.org

Address:

1911 11th St.
Suite 201
Boulder, CO 80302

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE****Veterans Commemorate September 11th with Climbing Extravaganza in Yosemite National Park**

Yosemite National Park, Calif. (August 28, 2014) – On September 11th, 20 U.S. veterans will mark the anniversary of 9/11 by climbing routes on El Capitan, Half Dome, and the Royal Arches in Yosemite National Park with adaptive sports non-profit Paradox Sports. The group of 20 veterans, all of whom are dealing with disabilities, will divide into teams based on skill level to simultaneously summit the three different areas in Yosemite. The landscape and like-minded company will create an environment of openness and contemplation, essential for improving veteran well-being by allowing participants to reflect on their past and prepare for reintegration into civilian life.

The trip is organized by Paradox Sports, a non-profit organization that creates physical adaptive sport communities. Paradox hosts hiking, climbing, and water-based adaptive programs and is building a network of inspired and able individuals and organizations through its new adaptive climbing curriculum. This Yosemite trip is one of five yearly veteran-specific trips offered by Paradox Sports for veterans with amputated limbs, PTSD, paraplegia, or any other disability.

“On the surface, this event is about climbing and hiking,” says Paradox Sports Executive Director Doug Sandok, “but in reality it's about how adventure transforms the participants perceptions of what's possible. Facing the unknown on the rocks of Yosemite brings real risks and perceived risks that results in some really profound learning and an important sense of purpose. Our participants bring that newfound strength into their everyday lives and it becomes a resource for moving past their perceived disabilities every single day.”

While many veterans may be unnerved by the anniversary of such a tragedy, Paradox is working to provide a positive opportunity for those who want to reflect and grow. The event is free for veterans thanks to the outdoor clothing and equipment company Marmot and an anonymous donor.

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.

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