

Fall on Rock, Protection Pulled Out, Inadequate Belay

Colorado, Rocky Mountain National Park, Lumpy Ridge

On August 22, Corey Stewart (22) fell 30 feet while leading on Batman Pinnacle at Lumpy Ridge. CPR was begun minutes later by people at the scene, but they were unable to revive him. According to witnesses, Stewart fell off, some gear pulled out, he landed on and then went off the belay ledge, and the belayer was pulled off afterward. Due to severe thunderstorms, recovery efforts had to be postponed until the next day. (Source: NPS Morning Report.)

Analysis

This unfortunate incident might have been compounded if the belayer had been injured too. An appropriate anchor could have prevented both climbers from falling off the ledge. (Source: Aram Attarian.)

Images

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