

Fall on Snow, Climbing Alone, Exceeding Abilities

Oregon, Mt. Hood, Cooper Spur

On August 11, Sebastian Kinasiewicz (32), a Polish military officer reported to be a novice climber, attempted a summit climb via the Cooper Spur route. He was reported overdue. Hood River Crag Rat volunteers were able to find and follow his tracks until they abruptly ended 100 feet below the summit. A Blackhawk aircrew spotted his body on the north face about 1,000 feet below the tracks.

Analysis

The Cooper spur is not considered to be a safe route for a solo novice climber. Further, the route is dangerous in August due to loose rock and extreme exposure. (Source: Jeff Scheetz, Portland Mountain Rescue.)

Images

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