



AAC Publications

Inadequate Equipment - No Sunglasses, Snow Blindness

Washington, Mt. Rainier, Camp Muir

On June 8, a little before 7 a.m., rangers at Camp Muir received notification of a 32-year-old female climber from New York City having difficulty opening her eyes due to pain and swelling. Rangers assessed the individual and determined her eye problems were most likely due to snow blindness; she hadn't worn sunglasses during her hike to Muir the previous day. The patient was unable to open her eyes and complained of significant eye pain (7 out of 10) but had no other injuries. As she could not see and was unable to safely descend, even with assistance, rangers initiated a carryout. (Source: Mt. Rainier ranger report.)

Images

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