



AAC Publications

Fall on Snow/Ice – Failure to Self-Arrest

Oregon, Mt. Hood, South Side

On May 24, James Adams (59) slipped on ice while descending the South Side Route. He was unable to self-arrest and slid several hundred feet into a fumarole (an opening in a glacier caused by ice melting due to volcanic fumes). Others witnessed his fall and communicated with a nearby Portland Mountain Rescue team. After verbal contact was made with the subject, a rescuer was lowered 100 feet into the fumarole and performed a medical assessment of Adams. After he was stabilized, Adams was raised to the surface and evacuated via helicopter to Legacy Emanuel Medical Center. He suffered multiple fractures, abrasions, and contusions but did survive. (Source: Jeff Scheetz, Portland Mountain Rescue.)

Images

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