



Chelan County Sheriff's Office

Brian Burnett, Sheriff

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For Immediate Release

Contact: Under Sheriff John Wisemore

Incident #: 15c13860

Search for Missing Climber – Colchuck Peak Phone: 509-667-6833

Date: 11/30/2015

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The Chelan County Sheriff's Office initiated an active search for an overdue climber in the area of Colchuck Peak Monday morning. The climber, Adam Ochshorn (33yoa) of Portland, Oregon had planned on hiking to the Colchuck Lake area on Friday, camping overnight and then climbing a couloir route to reach Colchuck Peak on Saturday. He was expected out by late Saturday evening or early Sunday morning. Ochshorn's vehicle was located near the Bridge Creek campground. He is described as an experienced and technical climber who had hiked in the Colchuck area this past summer.

Search coordinators and Chelan County Mountain Rescue personnel worked together throughout Monday in an attempt to locate Ochshorn. One team of Mountain Rescue members had hiked into Colchuck Lake on Sunday evening. Deputies and other Mountain Rescue members joined in the search Monday morning. Ochshorn's tent was eventually located along the west bank of Colchuck Lake unoccupied. Searchers are focusing on a north couloir route which Ochshorn mentioned to friends would be his ascending route to the Colchuck Peak summit.

Due to a weather inversion layer of low clouds in Chelan County, a helicopter from the Snohomish County Sheriff's Office was requested to conduct an aerial search Monday. (The elevation of the search area is above the inversion layer). Searchers had clear skies throughout Monday's operational period but have yet to locate Ochshorn. The search will continue Tuesday morning.

Please direct questions concerning this media release to Under Sheriff John Wisemore.

Integrity ★ Teamwork ★ Excellence

John Wisemore
Undersheriff



Dave Helvey
Chief of Special Operations



Jason Mathews
Chief of Patrol

Valerie Karnes
Chief Civil Deputy



Jan Brincat
Executive Assistant