

Chelan County Sheriff's Office

Brian Burnett, Sheriff

Law and Justice Bldg ★ 401 Washington Street #1 ★ Wenatchee, WA 98801 Phone: (509) 667-6851 ★ Fax: (509) 667-6860

For Immediate Release

Contact: Sergeant Kent Sisson

Incident #: 16C06049

Missing Subject on Aasgard Pass Located Phone: 509-667- 6863

Original Date: June 6, 2016 / Update July 2, 2016 http://www.co.chelan.wa.us/sheriff

Update 07/02/2016 at 4:00pm

On Saturday July 2, 2016 at approximately 8:45am, a team of Chelan County Mountain Rescue (CCMR) members located the body of Qi He (24yoa) under the snowpack on what is known as Aasgard Pass above Colchuck Lake in the Enchantment Wilderness. Qi He disappeared into a hole in the snow on June 5th while glissading down Aasgard Pass with co-workers. The hole in the snow was created by a waterfall and then became a creek running down the mountain side under the deep snowpack. Initial attempts to locate him were unsuccessful due to the deepness of the hardened snow. A team of CCMR members, and one Sheriff's Office SAR deputy had pre-planned a recovery search for this morning. The body is in the care of the Chelan County Coroner's Office pending an autopsy next week. Family members have been notified.

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Update 6/8/16 at 1015 hours

Sheriff Burnett has identified the missing Aasgard hiker as 24 year old Qi He. Mr. He is a Chinese citizen who was living and working as a Student/Intern in the Seattle area. With assistance from local Immigration and Customs Enforcement Agents, the Chinese Embassy and Mr. He's employer, his family was notified of the incident.

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Update 6/7/16 at 1100 hours

The active search for the missing hiker on Aasgard Pass has been suspended for now. The Chelan County Sheriff's Office Search and Rescue unit will monitor the



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weather conditions and snowpack levels with the intention to resume an organized recovery effort in the future.

The Chelan County Sheriff's Office has identified the missing hiker as a 24 year old male from the Seattle area. The release of his name is being withheld pending next of kin notification.

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Update 6/6/16 at 1300 hours

As of 1:00 p.m. today Chelan County Sheriff's Office Search and Rescue Unit has suspended their search efforts to locate the missing hiker. Ground units located the waterfall hole were the missing hiker entered. Search crews entered approximately 40 feet into the hole, but the missing hiker was not located. The area searched is filled with fast moving water and is covered by several feet of snow and ice. Search crews could not check beyond the 40 feet because of the hazardous conditions and safety concerns. Ground crews believe the hiker was swept a lengthy distance downstream from the location he entered. The stream ultimately enters into Colchuck Lake.

Chelan County Search and Rescue crews and Chelan County Detectives are still trying to identify the missing hiker. We currently do not have any updated information on his identity.

Original Media Release June 6, 2016

On June 5 shortly before 10:00pm Sheriff Brian Burnett reports a group of individuals were glissading down the snow on Aasgard Pass. One of the subjects, who was in front of the others, slid over the edge of a waterfall hole and into rushing water. The current water flow is heavy and leads underneath the snow. The Sheriff's Office requested assistance from the U.S. Navy, who provide a helicopter with FLIR capabilities to search for the individual. The Navy searched without success and then returned to their base. The Sheriff's Office Search and Rescue unit is currently inserting ground rescue members in an attempt to locate the individual.



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The Sheriff's Office only has a first name of the missing subject, which has not been verified. The only confirmed information we currently have is the missing subject is a male and approximately 24 years of age. The group had just met each other the previous day.

"Glissading" is described as sliding down a steep slope of snow or ice with the support of an ice axe.

Additional information will be released as it is gathered.