



KLAMATH COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Sheriff Chris Kaber

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Media Release

Date: February 18, 2021

Re: Search and Rescue

Contact: Brandon Fowler – PIO / Emergency Manager
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On February 17, 2021 at approximately 11:30PM Klamath County Sheriff's Office deputies and volunteers from Klamath County Sheriff's Office Search and Rescue located two local women who had been missing for more than twenty-four hours. The women, ages 89 and 59, had ventured out on a sight-seeing drive and became stuck on a snow-covered roadway in a remote part of Lake County near Willow Valley Reservoir. In an effort to reduce the potential for loss of life, extensive resources were expended due to the life-threatening weather conditions that exist this time of year (freezing temperatures).

Involved in the search were Sheriff's Office deputies, Sheriff's Office Search and Rescue volunteers, deputies from the Lake County Sheriff's Office, the US Forest Service, and friends and family of the missing women. Additionally, aircraft and searchers were provided by Emergency Airlift, Brim Aviation along with the Jackson County Sheriff's Office, and the Oregon State Police.

Klamath County Sheriff Chris Kaber states, "Our Search and Rescue Unit has responded to an alarming number of incidents this year in which people, unprepared for the conditions they venture into, become disabled and unable to rescue themselves. They often find themselves unable to communicate their situation, relying too heavily on cell phone connections to summon help. I urge everyone to use a double portion of caution when they decide to venture off the beaten path during the winter and early spring months."

The Klamath County Sheriff's Office wants to remind everyone to check road conditions before you leave and avoid using alternate routes that your GPS may suggest but you are unfamiliar with. Let someone know where you are going, when you plan to return, and know your capabilities and your vehicle limitations; don't off road onto closed roads.

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