



Snohomish County Sheriff's Office
News Release



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John R. Lovick, Sheriff

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(425) 339-5700 Breaking News Pager

FATALITY BOATING ACCIDENT

Sultan, WA

At 12:58 pm emergency responders were called for a missing man in the Skykomish River near Sportsman's Park in Sultan. Nine young adults departed Sportsman's Park to float downriver to Monroe. One of the mattresses they were floating on struck debris in the river causing the two occupants to fall into the river. The male submerged and became trapped in a "strainer". Members of the group tried to rescue the male but were unable to do so.

Water rescue personnel from Sultan Fire Department, Monroe Fire Department, Snohomish County Volunteer Search and Rescue, Snohomish County Air Operations and Snohomish County Technical Water Rescue Team all converged on the area to search for the victim. The male was located and subsequently recovered approximately 4:46 pm. The name of the victim shall not be released pending notification of next of kin.

This is another example of the hidden hazards of local rivers. It also reemphasizes the importance of the carriage and use of lifejackets. The air temperature is warm however the rivers are still cold and moving very quickly as snow continues to melt in the mountains.

Submitted by:
Lt Rodney Rochon
Commander Marine Services Unit

