



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: Undersheriff John Wisemore

Incident #: 14C02588

Phone: (509)667-6833

Date: March 26, 2014

<http://www.co.chelan.wa.us>

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Sheriff Brian Burnett reports on Wednesday, March 26 at about 11:45 A.M., Rivercom received a 911 call from a subject claiming he was stuck under an overturned ATV. The caller, identified as 62 year old Rodney Whaley of Wenatchee, stated his ATV, which was being pulled by 6 sled dogs, overturned after sliding on some ice about 2 ½ miles up from the Lilly Lake Sno-park. He stated he was unable to free himself and was bleeding from his head and hand. He was able to give directions to his location, but stated the roadway was really icy. Members of the Chelan County Sheriff's Office Search and Rescue, along with members from Ballard Ambulance, US Forest Service, Chelan County Fire District 1 in Malaga and Douglas County Fire District 2 all responded with resources to access the patient.

At about 12:36, rescuers were able to drive to within about 50 yards of the subject. He was able to free himself from being under the ATV prior to their arrival. They transported him down the hill and to Central Washington Hospital. His current condition is unknown, but initial assessment of his injuries appeared only minor. The investigation found that Whaley and his dogs were heading downhill on an extremely icy portion of the road. It appeared his ATV began sliding off the edge of the roadway and then flipped, trapping him underneath. He was not wearing a helmet. The sled dogs were uninjured in the incident and were picked up later by a family member.

Integrity ★ Teamwork ★ Excellence

John Wisemore
Undersheriff



Mike Harris
Chief of Patrol



Jason Mathews
Chief of Special Operations



Valerie Karnes
Chief Civil Deputy



Jan Brincat
Executive Assistant