



ROCKY WATSON, SHERIFF
TAD LEACH, UNDERSHERIFF

KOOTENAI COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

Media Release

On Saturday Oct 17 2009 at approximately 2115 hrs, the Kootenai County Sheriff's Department received information from the Shoshone County Sheriff's Department of a missing hunter in the Lavern Creek area of the Coeur d'Alene National Forest.

Identified was a 29 yr old male by the name of John King who was last heard from on a 2-way radio at approximately 1800 hrs same date. King and his hunting partner were hunting in the area of Forest Service Road 209 and Forest Service Trail 798. King was last known to be wearing blue jeans, a hooded sweatshirt and boots. He had a rifle and GPS/Radio with him, however, did not have food or water nor any survival gear.

Search and Rescue units from Kootenai County were called in and started searching around midnight. They were soon joined by Shoshone County Search and Rescue teams as well as a helicopter from Fairchild Air Force Base that joined in the search once the weather and light conditions were favorable.

Search and rescue ground teams, as well as horseback and ATV mounted searchers and the helicopter crew all corresponded with an on-scene Incident Command Center that had been activated to ensure the safety of all those involved as well as a coordinated search effort.

At approximately 1040 hrs on Sunday Oct 18 2009, Fairchild personnel advised that they had located the subject and that they were going to transport him to Kootenai Medical Center for observation/treatment for cold weather exposure as a result of being out all night in the elements (non-life threatening).

Rocky Watson – Sheriff
By Sgt. Tom Knight – Watch Commander
Rpt. #09-25885
Oct 18 2009 @ 1120 hrs.