
LANE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

NEWS RELEASE



CASE NUMBER: 11-02241

DATE/TIME OF INCIDENT: 03-30-2011 / 8:46 PM

DATE/TIME OF RELEASE: 03-31-2011 / 4:30 PM

NATURE OF STORY: Missing Persons Search & Rescue

LOCATION: Huckleberry Flats OHV Recreation Area, Oakridge, OR

INVOLVED: Germen, Reuben John 11-28-1970
Germen, Austin Wayne 03-17-1998
Both of Creswell, OR

DETAILS:

Lane County Sheriff's Office Search & Rescue (SAR) crews were called out at 8:46 PM yesterday evening on reported overdue persons in the Huckleberry Flats OHV (Off Highway Vehicle) riding area near Oakridge. Reuben and Austin Germen, father and son, were camping in the area with family when they went for a ride on an ATV and motorcycle at approximately 3:30 PM. They did not return to camp as expected by family and, after nightfall, a family member called the Sheriff's Office for assistance searching for them.

Members of the Sheriff's SAR, including two vehicles from the 4x4 club, responded last night and, with the assistance of personnel from the US Forest Service, searched through the night for the missing pair. As morning broke with no sign of the pair, additional SAR resources were assembled and began responding to the area. Sheriff's Mounted Posse, additional 4x4 club members, SAR staff from Marion County and the Lane County Sheriff's helicopter were among the resources being deployed.

At 11:42 AM this morning a Lane County Sheriff's SAR volunteer on an ATV located the missing pair approximately 1.3 miles from their campsite. The pair advised they had a break down on the ATV and spent time repairing the machine. Once darkness fell they attempted to return to camp but became lost on the OHV trail system and spent the night in the open. Temperatures were near 40 degrees and the pair was not prepared with overnight provisions. Despite this, they were found in good health and uninjured. The SAR resources being deployed this morning were called off before arriving in the search area.

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