
LANE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
NEWS RELEASE



CASE NUMBER: 17-1492

DATE/TIME OF RELEASE: 3/6/2017 10:15 am

NATURE OF STORY: Two Skiers Rescued Near Warner Mountain Lookout by Lane County Search and Rescue Volunteers

LOCATION: Warner Mountain Lookout

DETAILS:

On March 5, 2017 at 7:43 pm, the Lane County Sheriff's Office received a report of two skiers stuck in the snow on USFS Road 439 south of Oakridge. The skiers were headed towards Warner Mountain Lookout when heavy snowfall prevented them from continuing on. Four Lane County Search and Rescue volunteers from the Eugene Mountain Rescue Unit responded to the area and began working their way through the snow towards the skiers, who had charged cell phones and were able to provide their approximate location to first responders.

Douglas County Sheriff's Office responded to assist with a snow cat to provide access to the area where the skiers were believed to have dug a snow cave for warmth. The predicted overnight temperature in the area was approximately 17 degrees Fahrenheit and additional snow was expected.

The skiers were located by Search and Rescue volunteers shortly before 4:00 am and were taken back to their vehicle. They were unharmed but extremely cold.

Lane County Search and Rescue would like to remind those recreating outdoors to be prepared for unpredictable weather. Always bring appropriate equipment and a charged cell phone, and let someone know where you are headed and when you plan to return. The successful rescue of these two skiers can be attributed to their preparedness and having the ability to recognize adverse weather and to call for help.

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