



Snohomish County Sheriff's Office  
**News Release**



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Snohomish County Sheriff's Office

John R. Lovick, Sheriff

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE      All Media      05/12/2012

(425) 339-5700 Breaking News Pager

**RIVER RESCUE**

Index, WA

At 1:34 this afternoon Snohomish County Sheriff's Office Technical Water Rescue Team, East County Patrol Units, Sultan, Gold Bar and Index Fire Units responded to the Skykomish River 5 miles east of Index for a man trapped in a kayak and drowning. Two fellow kayakers were able to get the victim onto a gravel bar and performed CPR to revive the subject. Rescue teams conducted a river crossing to recover the victim and get him to shore to a waiting medic unit. Medics treated the subject who refused transport to the hospital against medical advice for treatment of near drowning.

The victim was properly equipped (lifejacket, dry suit) in a kayak suitable for the river. However the victim admitted he lacked the experience for this portion of the river. Also the water temperature was only 45 degrees and the rivers are still running high and fast.

The victim is a 50 year old male from Bellevue. The incident is still under investigation by the Snohomish County Marine Services Unit.

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Note: The sun is nice however the waters are still dangerous for recreation and extreme caution should be used.

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