



Newport Police Department

169 SW Coast Highway
Newport, Oregon 97365

NPD MEDIA RELEASE

07/22/2012 4:00 a.m.

Incident: Missing Person/Rescue **Case #: 12N-01280**

Location: South Beach State Park

Date/Time: 07/21/2012 at 7:40 p.m.

Details: On 07/21/2012, at 7:40 p.m., Newport Police Officers responded to a Willamette Valley Communications Center (WVCC) dispatch that employees of South Beach State Park were reporting a 60 year-old female in distress. Mary German Lavoie, age 60 of Portland, had been camping at the park for several days. She had walked to the South Beach Grocery store, and then decided to return to the park via the woods. It was determined that the woman was in the wetland area, had lost her shoes, and was lost.

Newport Police Officers and Newport Fire coordinated the search efforts with the park employees. The dispatch staff was able to “ping” Lavoie’s cell phone, which helped narrow the search area. Eventually, Officer Dan Miller worked his way into the swampy terrain, first making voice contact with the woman. He later found Lavoie and her dog several hundred yards off of Hwy 101, in knee-deep water and heavy brush. After almost one hour, Officer Miller was able to lead the woman to awaiting fire department personnel, who evaluated her condition. She was returned her to her camp site, refusing further medical treatment.

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Information Released By: Sgt Tom Simpson 541-574-3348