

Motorcyclist skids off highway into Clackamas River, dies

by Bend Weekly News Sources

A Lake Oswego man died when he lost control of his motorcycle, hit an icy patch on a curvy roadway, slid over 215 feet before leaving the road, and traveled down over a 40-foot rocky embankment into the four-foot deep frigid waters of the Clackamas River eddy below, said authorities.

Photo provided by Clackamas County Sheriff's Office. The victim, 47-year old William "Wesley" Carter of Lake Oswego, was discovered submerged in the river by a passing motorist about 5 ½ miles east of the Ripple Brook Ranger Station around 4:30 p.m. Sunday, December 31.

Investigators from the Clackamas County Sheriff's office found evidence at the scene that suggested Carter, while operating his 2004 KTM 950cc motorcycle on Road 46 (an extension of State Highway 224), probably hit an icy patch of the roadway that meanders along the upper Clackamas River.

Sheriff's deputies say Carter was wearing a motorcycle helmet and appropriate clothing for the weather riding conditions.

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