

Lost mountain bikers led to safety from Smith Rock

by Cheryl McDermott

Four young Central Oregon residents who became lost while riding mountain bikes on peaks in Smith Rock State Park were led to safety Saturday evening after they called for help on a cellular phone. The riders, two men and two women from Bend and Redmond, were unable to find their way down the mountain, had run out of water and were dehydrated.

Four lost mountain bikers were led to safety from Smith Rock State Park, about 8-miles NE of Redmond. Deschutes County 911 dispatch received a call shortly before 7 p.m., Sgt. Chad Davis reported. Deschutes County Sheriff's office Search & Rescue team members responded to the area about eight miles northeast of Redmond, escorted the bikers off the peaks and led them safely back to the main parking area.

Jered Kirk, 21, and Natalie Carrillo, 20, both of Bend; and Redmond residents 25-year old Brandy Atkinson and Leif Anderson, also 25; were not injured.

Sgt. Davis reminds Central Oregon residents to take appropriate precautions in the event they become lost or injured during recreational activities, including bringing a cell phone, food, water, maps, a first aid kit, and a GPS (if possible).