

Toddler saved from Deschutes River drowning

by Cheryl McDermott

A 2 ½ year-old Redmond boy is expected to make a full recovery after bystanders pulled him from the Deschutes River and began life saving efforts after heâ€™d been floating face down for up to four minutes, deputies reported.

Deschutes County Sheriffâ€™s deputies and Bend Fire and Rescue personnel responded to a report of a drowning at Tumalo State Park Campground about 5:40 p.m. on Tuesday, Sgt. Dan Swearingen said.

When they arrived, they found the child had already been pulled from the water and a local physician who happened to be on scene had initiated CPR (Cardio-Pulmonary Resuscitation). Reports indicated that the toddler regained a pulse and was breathing on his own before medics arrived.

The boy was transported to St. Charles Medical Center in Bend by ambulance for evaluation. â€œAs of today the youth is expected to make a full recovery,â€• the sergeant said.

The toddler had been wearing a safety flotation device, but it wasn't a type designed to roll over a swimmer who is face down in the water, and witnesses reported he was floating face down in the river for two-to-four minutes before his rescue.

The incident remains under investigation by the sheriff's office.

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