

La Pine man missing near Wickiup Dam found safe

by Cheryl McDermott

A 50-year old La Pine man whose family reported him missing Friday night after he failed to return home from swimming at the Wickiup Dam was found safe and sound by Search and Rescue team members the following day.

About 10:45 p.m., August 24, Deschutes County Sheriff's Office deputies received a report that Wesley Scott Murphey, 50, of La Pine was missing after he left earlier in the day to go swimming. According to a news release prepared by Sgt. Chad Davis, deputies and volunteers from the Search and Rescue (SAR) team began searching near the Wickiup Butte Boat Ramp and surrounding areas.

The search continued until Murphey was located by SAR shortly after 11 a.m. the next day. He was found in good condition and uninjured, walking on Cascade Lakes Highway near USFS Road 44, Davis said. No other details were available at the time of the news release.

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