

Deschutes teen arrested for shooting friend in the head

by Cheryl McDermott

A Deschutes County teenager was arrested Thursday evening after he allegedly shot his 16-year-old friend in the head as they were firing various weapons on BLM land north of Alpine Drive in the Alfalfa area, deputies reported.

According to Deschutes County Sheriff's deputy Lt. Kevin Dizney, three boys, aged 15-16 years old, were hunting and target practicing when the incident occurred. Deputies were called to St. Charles Medical Center in Bend about 7:15 p.m. in response to the report of a gunshot victim.

The initial investigation suggested the shooter "acted in a reckless manner", causing his rifle to accidentally discharge and strike the victim, Dizney said. The teen was arrested and lodged in the Deschutes County Juvenile Detention Facility where he is charged with unlawful use of a weapon, negligently wounding another, pointing a firearm at another, and reckless endangering another person, the lieutenant reported.

Dizney declined to comment on the extent of the injuries sustained by the victim, citing restrictions of the federal HIPPA law pertaining to confidentiality.

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