

NEWS RELEASE



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CASE NUMBER: N/A

DATE/TIME OF INCIDENT: N/A

DATE/TIME OF RELEASE: 02/28/2009

NATURE OF STORY: Death Investigation

LOCATION: McGowan Creek

INVOLVED: Hernandez, Judy Nyoka DOB 01-28-64

DETAILS: On Wednesday, February 25, 2009 at approximately 1700 hours, Lane County Sheriff's Deputies and Detectives, after receiving information regarding the location of deceased individual, discovered the partially decomposed body of a female on BLM land, near mile post 2.5 on McGowan Creek Road.



Seven vehicles that were stuck off the roadway in the very wet and muddy terrain were also discovered. Six of those vehicles were reported stolen out of the Lane County area.

Fingerprints taken from the deceased have led to the positive identification of Judy Hernandez, most recently from Springfield.

Lane County Sheriff's personnel, assisted by the Oregon State Police are continuing follow-up on this investigation. There are no obvious signs of the cause of death and toxicology reports are pending.

This area is not accessible via vehicle at this time due to the recent rain and snowfall. The terrain and weather have slowed the initial investigation. It is not known at this time if the stolen vehicles are related to the deceased. The location appears to be a place for stolen vehicles that have been partially stripped of reusable or easily sold parts to be abandoned.

The Lane County Sheriff's Office is requesting that anyone with information about this case, including Hernandez or places she may have been staying or individuals she had been associated with, to call the Sheriff's Office Crime Tip Line at (541) 682-4167.

Prepared by: Lieutenant Randy Smith