

NEWS RELEASE



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CASE NUMBER: LCSO: 07-09439 / EPD: 07-19472

DATE/TIME OF INCIDENT: November 4, 2007

DATE/TIME OF RELEASE: November 7, 2007 - 1400

NATURE OF STORY: **MISSING PERSON**

LOCATION: Cougar Reservoir Area – Lane County

INVOLVED: Mr. Daming Xu

DETAILS:

Lane County Sheriff's Office Search and Rescue personnel continue to search for Mr. Xu in the Cougar Reservoir area of Lane County. The Sheriff's Office has approximately 20 personnel in the area involved in the ground search effort, including six Lane County Sheriff's Office Mounted Posse on horseback. Assisting the Sheriff's Office are members from the Benton County Sheriff's Office Search and Rescue, Deschutes County Sheriff's Office Search and Rescue and U.S. Forest Service personnel. Eugene Police Department investigators are also with Sheriff's personnel at the command post established at the search area. Eugene Police received the initial missing report from Mr. Xu's family.

A Lane County Sheriff's Deputy located Mr. Xu's vehicle yesterday at the Ollalie trailhead. Today searchers were contacted by persons who were hiking in the area Sunday. The hikers told searchers they were at the Ollalie summit when they observed Mr. Xu arrive at the summit and they spoke briefly to him. The hikers observed Mr. Xu leave Ollalie summit and head down the trail ahead of

them and everything appeared fine with Mr. Xu. When the hikers returned to their vehicle they observed Mr. Xu's vehicle still parked at the trail head. Mr. Xu's vehicle had not been there when the hikers first arrived for their hike.

Searchers located shoe tracks in the area yesterday afternoon. There is minimal hiking activity in the area and searchers believe there is a high probability the tracks located were from Mr. Xu but have not been able to confirm that. Searchers followed the tracks until they lost them at approximately 0300 this morning. No new signs or information has been located by searchers.

Searchers remained out searching all last night and the search effort is planned to continue round the clock until further assessment is made by search managers.

Temperatures today have reached approximately 50 degrees in the search area and were at freezing temperatures overnight.

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For additional information contact: Lieutenant Byron Trapp 541.682.4458

Prepared by: Lieutenant Byron Trapp