



LINCOLN COUNTY SHERIFF

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Lincoln County Sheriff's Office Media Release

Wednesday, November 30, 2016

On Wednesday, November 30, 2016 the Lincoln County Sheriff's Office 911 Dispatch Center received a call of a missing hunter. It was reported that the 73-year-old male had come home to get waders so he could go across the river to track a deer at around 1:00 p.m. and had not been seen or heard from since.

Responding units included members of the Pine River Fire Department, Merrill Fire Department & EMS, Tomahawk Fire Department, Russell Fire Department, Corning Fire Department, and the Lincoln County Sheriff's Office. Fire department personnel along with deputies from the Sheriff's Office began a ground search while additional Lincoln County deputies, using a new Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) equipped with a Forward Looking Infra-Red (FLIR) thermal imaging camera, searched from the air.

Ground searchers located the deer that the hunter was set out to find when he went missing, providing a starting point for the UAV to begin a search. After approximately 45 minutes in the air, a UAV thermal image of the possible victim was located on the edge of the river approximately 100 yards south of the deer's location. That information was relayed to ground searchers, who quickly located the victim deceased at approximately 6:15 p.m.

That is all the information that is being released at this time. The incident remains under investigation by the Lincoln County Sheriff's Office and the Lincoln County Coroner. The victim's name is being withheld pending notification of additional family members.

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