An apparently accidental gun shot left a Columbia County woman seriously injured during a hunting incident in a rural area a few miles west of Scappoose this afternoon. Lindsay Roub, 24, St. Helens suffered a severe leg wound when the rifle she had been carrying discharged as she was handing it to her hunting partner.

Sheriff's deputies responded to the area of Siercks and Pisgah Home roads after Roub's friend and hunting partner, Raymond Ozias,39, St. Helens called for help around 5:12 p.m. Ozias did not have a good cell phone connection and information was relayed to deputies by a third party. Deputies began searching in the area for the injured hunter at 5:21 p.m.

Deputy Bill Haas located the couple around 5:35 p.m. Roub was found with a serious gunshot wound to her right leg. Deputies characterized her condition as barely conscious when they arrived - a makeshift tourniquet around her leg to control the bleeding. Deputy Haas applied a secondary tourniquet and after additional deputies and medics from the Scappoose Rural Fire Protection District arrived, she was carried out of the woods to a waiting ambulance and transported into a Portland hospital.

The shooting appears to be accidental. Ozias told deputies that he was hunting with Roub when they spotted a buck in the woods. He said they were trying to chase the deer into a clear cut so they could take a shot at it. While maneuvering on the deer, they had to walk down a steep hill. Ozias said that he was walking in front of Lindsay with his rifle slung and Roub was carrying her own rifle. At one point, Roub asked Ozias to take her rifle so that she could climb down. Ozias said that Roub handed him the butt stock of her rifle, but as he grabbed it, he started falling backward when the rifle fired. He said he believes that a branch must have been in the trigger well causing the rifle to discharge, shooting Lindsay in the leg.

Ozias said he attempted to call 911 but could not get service. H applied a make shift tourniquet to reduce the bleeding. Once the tourniquet was applied, he kept trying to call anyone for help. Ozias said that he eventually reached Roub's father, who responded to the scene.

Deputies investigating the scene found it to be consistent with Ozias' statement. The incident is being treated as an accidental shooting at this time, although the investigation continues.