

Pilot of Crashed Aircraft Located by Rescue Personnel

Monday, 05 October 2009 19:07 -

The Columbia County Sheriff's Office, in conjunction with the Coast Guard and Columbia River Fire and Rescue personnel, this afternoon located the injured pilot of a single-seat, light aircraft that crashed northwest of Saint Helens.

Federal Aviation Administration officials notified the sheriff's office of the missing aircraft at 10:40 a.m. The last known location of the airplane was 5 miles northwest of the Scappoose Airport.

The sheriff's office dispatched its Search and Rescue Unit and requested assistance from the U.S. Coast Guard for help in locating the aircraft.

At 1:09 p.m., a Coast Guard helicopter located the downed craft in the general vicinity of its last known location. The Coast Guard lowered a rescue swimmer to the crash site and waited for sheriff's office and Columbia River Fire and Rescue personnel to arrive at the scene.

Lifelight helicopter transported a single male patient from the area to Emanuel Hospital in Portland.

Sheriff's Search and Rescue and fire department personnel are continuing to search the area of the crash. The FAA is conducting the investigation of the crash.