

**LAKEPORT FIRE
PROTECTION DISTRICT**
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NEWS ANNOUNCEMENT

For immediate release

-Search and Rescue, Injured Motorcyclist-

LAKEPORT, CA. November 21, 2009- On Saturday November 21 at 11:30 AM, the Lakeport Fire Protection District to a reported injured dirt bike rider in the Cow Mountain Recreation Area. Initial reports were vague regarding the patient's location and his status; one report stated he was being transported by ATV to the Mendo-Lake road but this was unconfirmed. Lakeport ambulance 5012 arrived first on scene at Mendo-Lake road and trail 25 at 11:51 AM. Reporting parties stated the patient was 1.5 miles down a "black diamond" trail and ATV's could only travel ½ mile due to poor road conditions and trees across the trail.

Under the direction of Fire Chief Ken Wells, Helicopter REACH 6 conducted a fly-over to search for the injured party but without success. Four Lakeport firefighters, including 2 paramedics, began walking down the trail to search for the injured person. Shortly into the operation, rescuers came upon other dirt bike riders; they advised the patient was located several miles down the trail and had a shoulder injury that prevented him from riding out.

At 12:30 PM Lakeport Firefighters still had not made patient contact, and resource orders for both Lake County Search and Rescue and a CHP rescue helicopter from Redding was made. Paramedics made patient contact at 1:41 PM after hiking 2.8 miles over harsh terrain; they found a male in his 30's with an isolated shoulder injury caused by losing control of a dirt bike and striking a tree. The patient had walked nearly 2 miles from the accident site before being located. After a thorough patient assessment, the decision was made to walk the patient out due to an extended arrival time for air resources. A Lakeport volunteer firefighter's ATV and Sheriff's Department ATV had traveled down trail 25 as far as possible before road conditions became too severe. After splinting the injured extremity, paramedics walked with the patient to awaiting ATV equipment, who then transported the patient to the ambulance. The patient was transported to Sutter Lakeside Hospital by Lakeport ambulance 5012 for definitive treatment at 2:57 PM. The patient was wearing full protective equipment, including body armor and helmet, which likely reduced injury severity. No injuries to emergency responders were reported and law enforcement is conducting the accident investigation. The following agencies assisted in this successful operation: Lakeport Fire, Lake County Sheriff's Office, CHP, and REACH

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*All Lakeport Fire Protection District Public Service Announcements are available online at
www.lakeportfire.com*

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