

Bend Fire Department Emergency Incident News Release

Incident #:	1907855	Incident Name:	
Released by/rank:	Battalion Chief Jeff Blake	Release Date/Time:	9/1/2019,6:30 pm
Release contact info:	jblake@bendoregon.gov		

Incident Information:				
Incident Date/Time:	9/1/2019, 3:11 pm			
Incident Address:	Big Eddy Rapids			
Property Owner:				
Property Occupant:				
Description of Incident:	Bend Fire and Rescue was called to a reported Swift Water Rescue Incident at the Big Eddy rapids. It was reported that a 70 year old female was thrown from a raft that was operated by her son-in-law as they were descending through Big Eddy rapids.			
Fire cause or investigation status:				
Smoke Alarms:	Present	No	Working	No
Fire Sprinklers	Present	No	Working	No

Value/Loss and Insurance:			
Building	\$0.00/ \$0.00	Contents	\$0.00 / \$0.00
Vehicle	\$0.00 / \$0.00	Contents	\$0.00 / \$0.00
Owner Insurance	No	Occupant Insurance	No

Assignments:

Engines	1	Ladder Truck		Rescue	1	Medic Unit	1
Brush Engine		Water Tender		Command	1	Support Unit	2
Volunteers		Total Personnel	11				
Mutual Aid Support	Deschutes County Sheriffs Department						
Red Cross				Other/Utilities			

Narrative

Bend Fire and Rescue was called to a reported Swift Water Rescue Incident at the Big Eddy rapids. It was reported that a 70 year old female was thrown from a raft that was operated by her son-in-law as they were descending through Big Eddy rapids. The female was able to self rescue to the river right on the lava flow side and was uninjured. The female was wearing a life jacket. Bend Fire and Rescue with assistance from rafting companies Sun Country and Inn of the Seventh Mountain developed a plan to help bring the patient back across the river safely using the fire departments raft and personnel from each agency. The cooperation and communication between the fire department and the commercial rafting companies was essential to the success of this rescue. Bend Fire and Rescue would like to thank them for their assistance and to the individual that paddled one of our personnel across the river above the rapids so we could access the patient. Whitewater rafting can be dangerous, please make sure that if you are rafting the river to follow all the rules, scout the rapids before you go through them and always wear a life jacket.

Photo Information

In accordance with the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA), the Bend Fire Department can not disclose any information pertaining to any patient(s).

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