



Chelan County Sheriff's Office

Brian Burnett, Sheriff

Law and Justice Bldg ★ 401 Washington Street #1 ★ Wenatchee, WA 98801
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For Immediate Release

Contact: Sergeant Kent Sisson

Incident #:19C03519

Injured Backcountry Skier Rescued

Phone: 509.667-6864

Date: 04/15/2019

<http://www.co.chelan.wa.us/sheriff>

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Sheriff Brian Burnett reports a 29 year old back country skier was rescued Sunday afternoon after being swept of her skies during a snow slide in the area above of Colchuck Lake.

Shanna Hovertsen of Seattle was skiing with friends at around 1:15pm when a small avalanche caused her to tumble down the slope twisting both of her knees. She was assisted by the other three subjects in the group and escorted to a campsite near Colchuck Lake. Hovertsen could not hike out under her own power. One of the subjects used an inReach satellite communication device to text a request for assistance to the International Emergency Rescue Communication Center in Texas. The message was relayed to the Washington State Emergency Management communication center at Camp Murray, and then to RIVERCOM dispatch.

A Chelan County Sheriff's Office helicopter crew was launched from Wenatchee. The helicopter was able to land near the patient. Hovertsen was flown to the National Fish Hatchery landing pad near Leavenworth by 4:40pm where an ambulance was waiting to transport her to Cascade Medical Center in Leavenworth. Hovertsen is in stable condition.

Inquiries concerning this media release may be made to Sergeant Kent Sisson with the Chelan County Sheriff's Office.

Integrity ★ Teamwork ★ Excellence

Jason Mathews
Undersheriff



Jason Reinfeld
Chief of Special Operations



Rick Johnson
Chief of Patrol

Kim Oglesbee
Chief Civil Deputy



Jan Brincat
Executive Assistant