



Mike Morrison | Sheriff

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For Immediate Release

Contact: Chief Seth Buhler

Incident #: 24C02027

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Date: 3/11/24

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

Chelan County Sheriff Mike Morrison reports, on 3/8/24, at approximately 3:45pm CCSO Deputies were in the vicinity of milepost 5 of the Malaga Alcoa Hwy. They witnessed a subject riding on a red ATV without a helmet. One of the Deputies recalled having taken a stolen report on a red Honda ATV on 2/20/24. Deputies attempted to contact and stop the ATV but the driver did not comply and attempted to elude Deputies. Due to current state laws the Deputies did not pursue the ATV, but set up a quick perimeter and searched the area for the suspect.

They located the red ATV upside down and in the Columbia River. It appeared to have been pushed or driven off a cliff and into the river. Deputies were able to confirm the ATV was indeed the one reported stolen from 2/20/24.

Deputies continued to investigate and were able to locate and arrest the driver of the stolen ATV, who was attempting to hide. The driver was identified as Ryan D. Welton, a 42-year-old male from Malaga, WA. He was charged with Eluding, Possession of a Stolen Vehicle as well as Driving while license suspended 1st degree and Ignition Interlock Violation.

Chelan County Deputies continue to persist in their investigations, which lead to the apprehension of those who commit crimes in our community.

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Undersheriff
Dan Ozment



Chief of Operations
Ryan Moody



Chief of Patrol
Seth Buhler



Chief Civil Deputy
Kim Oglesbee



Executive Assistant
April Moore