



PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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CHP Helicopter assists with search and rescue of kayaker at Dillon Beach

Dillon Beach, Marin County, CA

On March 18, 2015 at approximately 1650 hours, the Marin County Sheriff's department requested assistance from the California Highway Patrol Air Operations unit's helicopter (H-30) to assist with a search and rescue of two kayakers that were in distress in the vicinity of Dillon Beach. H-30 responded and began searching for the kayakers. Shortly after H-30's arrival, one of the kayakers was located on a rugged, remote beach north of Dillon Beach. H-30 was requested by rescuers to evacuate the kayaker from the beach to the command post. H-30 was able to land on the small beach and loaded the kayaker. H-30 then transported the kayaker to the command post on Dillon Beach where he was handed off for medical evaluation. The kayaker showed no outward signs of injury or distress. After a quick interview of the kayaker to focus the search area, H-30 lifted off again and searched the beach and rock areas north of Dillon Beach for the second missing kayaker. H-30 located a kayak paddle and a life jacket in the surf. H-30 continued a low level search of the area but, was unable to locate the second missing kayaker before having to return to base for fuel.

The California Highway Patrol Golden Gate Division Air Operations unit, based at the Napa County Airport, operates four aircraft (two airplanes and two helicopters) which patrol the 9 Bay Area Counties, approximately 6,923 square miles that is home to a residential population of more than 7 million people. The helicopter is routinely staffed with a CHP Officer/Pilot and a CHP Officer/Paramedic. The helicopter is equipped with a rescue hoist that has 165 feet of cable that can lift patients and/or rescuers, with a cumulative weight up to 450 pounds.

END



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