



Missing men found shaken but healthy Pair got lost after dogs ran off in woods

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Two men who got lost in a steep, wooded area near Round Mountain were reached by rescue teams early Monday morning.

The pair were cold and wet when search teams reached them at 1 a.m. about six miles off McCandless Gulch and Backbone roads west of Round Mountain, the Shasta County Sheriff's Office said.

About two feet of snow covered the mountainous area where the men were found.

"They had warm clothes on and boots, but they were not prepared to spend the night," Lt. Mark Lillibridge said.

Search teams had to use quad-runners to reach the men. Six members of the sheriff's search and rescue team and 14 volunteers helped find the men, who were first reported missing around 7 p.m. Sunday.

One of the men, 37-year-old Bob Fogel, was able to walk out on his own after he was found, Lillibridge said. Fogel's companion, Monty Combs, 52, complained of leg cramps and fatigue. Searchers gave him dry clothing and food and stayed with him through the night, Lillibridge said.

After daybreak Combs was airlifted in a California Highway Patrol helicopter to Mercy Medical Center in Redding, Lillibridge said. He was treated and released.

Fogel and Combs both live in Shasta County, Lillibridge said.

"They were doing some sort of hunting or walking with their dogs when the dogs took off and they went to go find them," Sgt. Tom Campbell said. "They became disoriented ... and around dark they called some friends, who called us."

A REACH helicopter from Shasta Regional Medical Center in Redding located the missing men around 10 p.m., three hours after they first were reported missing, Campbell said. The crew consisted of Pete Ortiz, pilot, Terri Douglas, RN, and Jon Kowalski, EMT-P. Ground searchers reached them about three hours later.

If we didn't have the REACH helicopter to locate them last night, we would be involved in a search right now instead of a rescue," Campbell said Monday.