



Yuma County Sheriff's Office

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PRESS RELEASE

Contact: Lt. Sam Pavlak
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
January 17, 2020 – 2:40 PM

Lost Individual Rescued

Location of Incident: Area of North Star Mine in the Kofa Wildlife Refuge – Yuma, AZ

On Monday, January 13, 2020 at approximately 12:49 PM, the Yuma County Sheriff's Office received a report of a missing person who was travelling to a campsite in the Kofa Wildlife Refuge.

The reporting party stated that Mr. Gregory Manary, 77 years of age, of Yuma, AZ, was last seen on January 11, 2020 at approximately 1:00 PM by a friend. Mr. Manary had departed his residence to meet with another friend at a campsite, but never arrived. Several attempts to contact Mr. Manary on his cellphone were unsuccessful.

Upon receiving the missing person report and notification of Mr. Manary's status, search efforts were initiated by the YCSO Search and Rescue (SAR). Over the course of two days, the YCSO SAR units were assisted by additional personnel from Border Patrol BORSTAR and Fish and Wildlife Agents. Fixed wing aircraft support was provided by the Civil Air Patrol, and helicopter assistance was provided by U.S. Customs and Border Protection Air and Marine Operations, and the Department of Public Safety (DPS) Rangers.

On January 15th, at approximately 2:12 PM, following an extensive search, Manary was located in his vehicle in a wash approximately ¼ mile north of the North Star Mine in the Kofa Wildlife Refuge. He was found dehydrated and suffering minor injuries. Manary stated he became lost while travelling to the campsite in his vehicle and became stuck in a wash.

Manary was recovered and transported by helicopter to Abrazo Arrowhead Hospital in Glendale, AZ for treatment.

The Sheriff's Office would like to remind the public to plan and prepare accordingly when travelling/camping in the desert. Pack plenty of water and food as well as additional clothing. Items to protect from the sun to include sunscreen, hats, and sunglasses are also recommended. Plan your route of travel in advance and provide your travel plans to include departure and return dates/times to a family member and/or friend who will not be travelling with you. Remain on designated/clearly marked trails and if you do become lost, remain with your vehicle as it will be able to provide shelter and will be what rescuers will be searching for.

If you are interested in volunteering to be a member of the Yuma County Sheriff's Office Search and Rescue, please contact Sergeant Richard Meraz at 928-783-4427 ext. 3226. You can also visit our website at www.yumacountysheriff.org for additional information about Search and Rescue and other volunteer positions.

Information Released By: Lt. Samuel Pavlak, Public Information Officer