

IMARS Incident details

<i>Printed by:</i>	U.S. Department of the Interior , National Park Service
<i>Printed:</i>	09/15/2017 08:29
<i>Incident:</i>	NP17079324

Incident details:

<i>Report no.:</i>	NP17079324
<i>Incident Type:</i>	EMS (Medical Injury/Illness/Death)
<i>Incident time:</i>	06/14/2017 17:58 -
<i>Reported time:</i>	06/14/2017 17:58
<i>Place of incident:</i>	YNP GRAND LOOP RD, YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK, TETON WY 82190 (WEST THUMB GEYSER BASIN) (Region: IMR, State/Zone: WY, Area: YELL, Site: SNAKE)
<i>Clearance status:</i>	Open
<i>Concluded:</i>	No
<i>Concluded date:</i>	
<i>Summary:</i>	YELL Snake SAR- Timothy CONANT - OARS Guide fatality Investigation... DeLuca IC / Investigator. Rangers responded with multiple rescue boats and ground units to reports of a commercial kayak group in trouble, with people in the water off West Thumb Geyser Basin. The first arriving rescue boat discovered one victim already on shore who had been rescued by guides/clients and soon located a second victim still in the water approximately a quarter mile off shore. Rangers brought this second victim aboard their rescue boat and began CPR. The patient was returned to the boat ramp where resuscitation efforts continued and the patient was moved to a waiting helicopter. Efforts to revive this patient proved unsuccessful and the patient was pronounced deceased on the helipad. The first kayaker that had been rescued was transported to the local park medical clinic, treated for hypothermia, and later released. A follow-up investigation into the events of the incident is being conducted by the National Park Service and the Teton County Coroner's Office.

Remarks:

Associated incidents:

Involved persons:



- CONANT, TIMOTHY HAYDEN RYAN [DECEASED] / Concessionaire; Deceased / DOB: 07/26/1993 (23)
Gender: Male DL [REDACTED]

coroner NP17079324:

<i>Incident:</i>	NP17079324 EMS (Medical Injury/Illness/Death) @06/14/2017 17:58
<i>Task:</i>	T170356747 [No type - Closed] Due: 08/31/2017 17:22 #174 BOUSKA, S. ->#2303 TOWNSEND, T. [Low] NP17079324 EMS (Medical Injury/Illness/Death) @06/14/2017 17:58 (YNP GRAND LOOP RD, YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK, TETON WY 82190)

Author: (WEST THUMB GEYSER BASIN) (Region:
#2431 FARRAR, C.
Entered by: #S38 MOORE, R.
Vehicle:
Officer:
Case file:
Remarks:

Report time: 08/30/2017 07:50
Entered time: 08/14/2017 23:45

- [REDACTED]
- OARS / Concessionaire: Involved business, other
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]

Involved addresses:

- YNP GRAND LOOP RD / Dispatch address / YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK, Wyoming 82190 (WEST THUMB GEYSER BASIN) (Region: IMR, State/Zone: WY, Area: YELL, Site: SNAKE)

Involved comm addresses:

Involved vehicles:

Involved officers:

- Supervising officer / 9 / WILKINSON, T. / #1183 / NPS / Police Officer / NPS YELL / #S165 VERESS, L. / 08/30/2017 / 20170830 --:--:--
- Assisting officer / 9 / GOINS, Y. / #2733 / NPS / Police Officer / NPS YELL / #2326 ROPP, J. / 08/30/2017 / 20170830 --:--:--
- Assisting officer / 9 / SUAREZ, K. / #2628 / NPS / Police Officer / NPS YELL / #2326 ROPP, J. / 08/30/2017 / 20170830 --:--:--
- Assisting officer / 9 / DERENE, N. / #1200 / NPS / Police Officer / NPS YELL / #1489 PIKE, J. / 08/30/2017 / 20170830 --:--:--
- Assisting officer / 9 / CHUVARSKY, M. / #1148 / NPS / Police Officer / NPS YELL / #704 BOCK, R. / 08/30/2017 / 20170830 --:--:--
- Assisting officer / 9 / BREARLEY, J. / #2845 / NPS / Police Officer / NPS YELL / #715 CURTIS, M. / 08/30/2017 / 20170830 --:--:--
- Assisting officer / 9 / NEIDHARDT, N. / #2972 / NPS / Police Officer / NPS YELL / 08/30/2017 / 20170830 --:--:--
- Supervising officer / 9 / MOORE, R. / #S38 / NPS / Police Officer / NPS YELL / #CR148 WEBSTER, P. / 08/30/2017 / 20170830 --:--:--
- Assisting officer / 9 / ELLIOTT, R. / #2693 / NPS / Police Officer / NPS YELL / #2326 ROPP, J. / 07/01/2017 / 20170701 --:--:--
- Assisting officer / 9 / FARRAR, C. / #2431 / NPS / Police Officer / NPS YELL / #553 BASAK, P. / 06/18/2017 / 20170618 --:--:--
- Assisting officer / 9 / BOCK, R. / #704 / NPS / Police Officer / NPS YELL / #650 ROSS, B. / 06/18/2017 / 20170618 --:--:--
- Reporting officer / 9 / DELUCA, F. / #2489 / NPS / Police Officer / NPS YELL / #1183 WILKINSON, T. / 06/15/2017 / 20170615 --:--:--
- Assisting officer / 9 / POLEY, J. / #376 / NPS / Police Officer / NPS YELL / #2326 ROPP, J. / 06/15/2017 /

20170615 --:--:--

Involved property:

- Seized / PFD [LIFEJACKET]
- Sports: Fishing equipment / Seized / CAROLINA PERCEPTION [KAYAK]

Modus operandi:**Reports:****General report:**

Incident: NP17079324 EMS (Medical Injury/Illness/Death) @06/14/2017 17:58 (YNP GRAND LOOP RD, YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK, TETON WY 82190 (WEST THUMB GEYSER BASIN) (Region: IMR, State/Zone: WY, Area: YELL, Site: SNAKE)) (YELL Snake SAR-Timothy CONANT - OARS Guide fa

Task: T170240208 [Review - Closed] Due: 06/30/2017 13:29 #2489 DELUCA, F. ->#1183 WILKINSON, T. [Low] Case File Review NP17079324 EMS (Medical Injury/Illness/Death) @06/14/2017 17:58 (YNP GRAND LOOP RD, YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK, TETON WY 82190 (WEST THUMB GEYS

Author: #2489 DELUCA, F. **Report time:** 07/04/2017 16:10

Entered by: #2489 DELUCA, F. **Entered time:** 07/04/2017 16:10

Remarks: 17079327 CONANT Fatality Report

Narrative:

Investigative Narrative for IMARS:

Below is an investigative summary of information gathered and compiled through personal interviews, witness statements, supplemental report consolidation, and first hand investigator knowledge of the incident that happened on June 14th, 2017 at approximately 1800hrs in the West Thumb Geyser Basin of Yellowstone National Park that resulted in the death of OARS kayak guide Timothy CONANT.

Incident Summary

On June 14, 2017 Yellowstone Rangers responded with multiple rescue boats and ground units to reports of a commercial kayak group in trouble, with people in the water off West Thumb Geyser Basin. The first arriving rescue boat discovered one victim already on shore who had been rescued by guides/clients and soon located a second victim still in the water approximately a quarter mile off shore. Rangers brought this second victim aboard their rescue boat and began CPR. The patient was returned to the boat ramp where resuscitation efforts continued and the patient was moved to a waiting helicopter. Efforts to revive this patient proved unsuccessful and the patient was pronounced deceased on the helipad. The first kayaker that had been rescued was transported to the local park medical clinic, treated for hypothermia, and later released. A follow-up investigation into the events of the incident is being conducted by the National Park Service and the Teton County Coroner's Office.

Involved Company Info

OARS

PO Box 67

Angels Camp, CA 95222

O.A.R.S is National Park Service approved concession company based out Angel Camp, California with a local office based in Jackson, Wyoming. OARS has been a Yellowstone National Park non-motorized commercial permit holder since 1996. When working in the Grant Village area the company primarily leads half day kayak trips out of the Grant Village Marina to the West Thumb Geyser Basin Area and back. OARS has no resent history of safety violations with the NPS and has no resent history of contacts by National Park Service Law Enforcement officers for violations of park regulations of any kind.

Involved Kayak Guide Information

Timothy Hayden Ryan CONANT (Deceased)

Salt Lake City, UT 84102

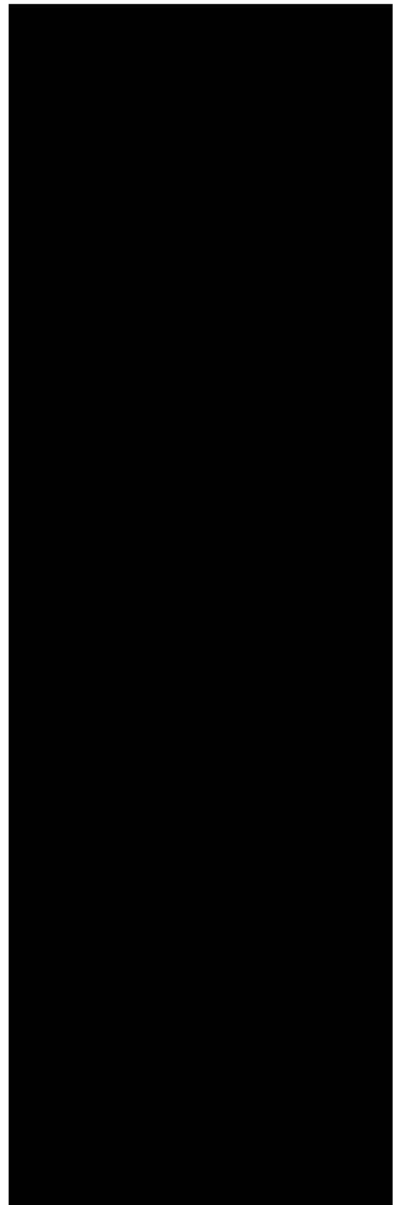
DOB 07/26/93 DL [REDACTED]



[Redacted] (Not on the water, back at OARS van)

Involved Client Information

[Redacted] (Transported to local Clinic)



Training/Experience

It was CONANT's first season working as kayak guide for OARS and it is unknown if he had any prior kayak experience or any experience kayaking on Yellowstone Lake. This was [REDACTED] first season working as a kayak guide with OARS as well and she stated she had only been in a kayak five times prior in her life before becoming a guide. When asked during a follow-up interview [REDACTED] stated that she had received no kayak safety training prior to leading trips with OARS. She further stated that she received no training on what to do if a client or co-worker fell out of a kayak into the water. [REDACTED] further stated that she also received no training on how to contact authorities for help in the event of an emergency on the water. [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] level of training and experience is unknown at the time of this report.

Personal Protective Equipment

On the day of the incident none of the involved guides or clients was wearing any type of dry or wet type of protective kayak clothing. CONANT was believed to be dressed in a ball cap, shirt, light weight pants, and Teva type sandals. He was also wearing a red personal flotation device. (See Coroners report for more information)

All guides and clients were found to be wearing coast guard approved personal flotation devices suitable for kayaking. When found, CONANT was still wearing his PFD, which was then cut off him by rescue personnel. This PFD was secured by investigators as evidence. (See photo logs)

Two of the guides kayaks were equipped with rescue "throw bags" however they continually referred to them as "towropes" so there is some question as to if they knew what the primary use of a throw bag actually is. CONANT's kayak may have been equipped with an additional throw bag as well, however that was never found.

Inside one of the guide kayak's investigators found one paddle float while reviewing the involved equipment; however it is unclear which guide was using this kayak. All kayaks were equipped with hand pumps to pump out water. The guides claim that CONANT had the OARS "hypothermic" bag however that has not been located as of this report.

Water Conditions

Yellowstone Lake, where the incident took place is approximately 132 square miles with depths of up to approximately 430 feet. Yellowstone Lake is the largest natural freshwater lake in the United States that is above 7000 feet. It is roughly 20 miles long and 14 miles wide with 141 miles of shoreline.

Weather Conditions

At the time of the incident the air temperature was approximately 53 degrees Fahrenheit (°F) with a dew point of 35°F and an average humidity of 73 percent. The sky was clear with a variable average wind speed of 13 mph with gusts up 21mph. The temperature of the water was estimated to be about 38-43°F. There were no officially reported storms in the immediate area, however multiple statements from the parties involved indicate high winds and "unfavorable kayaking conditions".

Vessel

The kayak being used by the deceased was a fourteen foot Carolina Perception kayak, blue in color. The kayak is owned by OARS the employer of the deceased. The kayak is a single person kayak, has a rudder for steering that is controlled by two foot pedals located inside the kayak, and has storage compartments both forward and rear in the boat. CONANT's kayak was initially lost in this incident, but was then recovered multiple days later by Grant Boat Patrol adrift on Yellowstone Lake. (See Ranger Elliott's supplemental report)

Investigation

The following is the investigators (Ranger DeLuca) recount of the incident:

The OARS kayak group launched from the Grant Marina beach like any normal day and paddled along the shore toward the West Thumb Geyser Basin on a half day trip. The guides and clients were configured in kayaks as follows:

OARS Guides CONANT, [REDACTED] and Client [REDACTED] were all in Solo kayaks.

Clients [REDACTED] were together in a tandem kayak.

Clients [REDACTED] were together in a tandem kayak.

Clients [REDACTED] were together in a tandem kayak.

Clients [REDACTED] were together in a tandem kayak.

OARS Guide [REDACTED] was not in a kayak during this incident, he remained at the company van back at the marina.

The paddle to West Thumb Geyser Area was uneventful and the group was paddling back to the Grant Marina when the incident occurred. The group was about twenty-five yards off shore, the distance they normally paddle at, with CONANT and [REDACTED] paddling up front with a group of faster paddlers. [REDACTED] was in the rear of the group paddling with the slower paddlers when for an unknown reason [REDACTED] tipped over and fell from his kayak into the water.

[REDACTED] immediately called for assistance from the other two guides who responded to [REDACTED] location in the water. The other clients in the area offered to help but were directed to not put themselves in danger by the guides and to instead paddle toward shore and remain there till told otherwise. When CONANT and [REDACTED] arrived on scene they were able to upright [REDACTED] kayak and assist [REDACTED] in getting [REDACTED] back into his water filled kayak. Even though [REDACTED] was now seated in his upright kayak he was already showing signs of hypothermia and his kayak was completely filled to the top with water. CONANT, [REDACTED] worked feverishly with hand pumps to remove the water from [REDACTED] kayak as the wind pushed them further and further from shore.

At some point the kayak guides acknowledged among themselves that pumping water out of the [REDACTED] kayak was not happening fast enough for the hypothermic client and they needed to just tow [REDACTED] kayak with him inside it to shore. As the guides were attempting to make the transition to a towing operation, CONANT's kayak rolled to the inside for an unknown reason and he fell from his kayak in-between his kayak and [REDACTED] kayak. There is some speculation on whether CONANT may have hit his head on one of the boats as he fell in between them, however none of the guides involved could confirm or deny this for sure. Everyone involved did state that CONANT immediately came back up from under the water after falling in, but for some reason did not attempt to get back into his kayak and instead just "bear hugged" the upside down kayak.

[REDACTED] stated CONANT did not seem injured but more like he was just catching his breath. Both [REDACTED] stated that he appeared to be fine so they focused their attention on [REDACTED] rescue and began to paddle in with [REDACTED] in tow. [REDACTED] stated that they had every indication that CONANT was self-rescuing and still involved in the rescue of the [REDACTED] in fact so much so that they were yelling for him to follow behind them and bring the hypothermic bag for the client.

As [REDACTED] were paddling [REDACTED] toward shore they could now see [REDACTED] paddling out toward them to assist but they also could see that CONANT was not following them. [REDACTED] decided that [REDACTED] would get [REDACTED] into shore and [REDACTED] should go back for CONANT.

A short time later [REDACTED] arrived on scene with [REDACTED] in their tandem kayak and began to assist [REDACTED] in getting [REDACTED] the rest of the way back to shore. At some point on the way back to shore the group discovers the water filled kayak with [REDACTED] in it is just too heavy to tow in the wind and [REDACTED] ends up back in the water where he is successfully pulled to shore between [REDACTED] kayak and [REDACTED] tandem kayak. On shore [REDACTED] assisted by [REDACTED] immediately begins to treat [REDACTED] for hypothermia by stripping his clothes and warming him. [REDACTED] takes his tandem kayak alone and starts paddling back out toward where he last saw [REDACTED] and CONANT. [REDACTED] takes [REDACTED] guide kayak and follows [REDACTED] back out onto the lake.

[REDACTED] stated that as she paddled toward CONANT's last known location it was obvious he had been blown even further off shore but she knew where he was because she could hear him blowing his rescue whistle for help so she paddled in that direction. When [REDACTED] was close enough to see CONANT he had stopped blowing the whistle and was now just floating motionless in the water. [REDACTED] further stated that CONANT was no longer holding onto his kayak, it was floating a distance away and still upside down. [REDACTED] stated that CONANT was still wearing his red personal flotation device and the OARS company white hypothermia bag was also floating in the water nearby.

It was at this point [REDACTED] used her personal cellphone to make the first call for help from ANY of the guides in the group. [REDACTED] attempted multiple times to call [REDACTED] back at the OARS van

in the Grant Marina parking area which proved unsuccessful. [REDACTED] later stated when being interviewed that she was unaware of the number to reach the National Park Service and did not know that dialing 911 from a cellphone would actually reach Yellowstone National Park Rangers so therefore she dialed her friend directly who happens to be a Yellowstone Ranger. This Ranger received her broken cellphone call and immediately alerted the Yellowstone National Park Dispatch Center who in turn dispatched rescue units to the scene.

[REDACTED] stated that when she found CONANT he was still conscious, but seemed very confused. [REDACTED] stated that she tried to ask him questions to assess his level of alertness but he kept answering inappropriately to her questions by repeatedly referring to the "towrope" being wrapped around his legs. [REDACTED] stated she saw nothing wrapped around CONANT's legs. [REDACTED] also stated that she thought that CONANT sounded like he had "water in his lungs" when he was talking. [REDACTED] repeatedly instructed CONANT to hold onto her kayak as she attempted to paddle toward shore. Sometime later [REDACTED] arrived on scene alone in his tandem kayak to assist. [REDACTED] stated that they attempted to load a still conscious CONANT into the empty seat of [REDACTED] tandem kayak however CONANT was confused and lethargic at this point and was just not providing enough assistance with the process for them to be successful. [REDACTED] stated they were able to hold onto CONANT between the boats and continued to paddle toward shore. [REDACTED] estimates that they had been paddling for 7 to 10 minutes when [REDACTED] arrived on scene in [REDACTED] solo kayak to also assist in the rescue of CONANT. With three people now on scene, [REDACTED] attempted to get CONANT into the empty seat in [REDACTED] tandem kayak however they were still unsuccessful and instead were only able to lift CONANT on top of [REDACTED] by lying CONANT inside the same seat as [REDACTED]. With their three kayaks together the group started paddling toward shore once again.

At some point during paddling [REDACTED] recalls seeing the NPS rescue boat approaching however she could tell the rescue boat could not see her group because her group was too far off shore. She could tell the boat was going toward [REDACTED] and her group onshore instead. [REDACTED] stated that at this point CONANT was now unconscious and no longer responding, his eyes were rolled back in his head, and his chin was red. [REDACTED] stated that [REDACTED] and herself were attempting to signal the rescue boat by waving their paddles in the air and yelling.

The NPS rescue boat arrived on scene with [REDACTED]. (See supplemental reports from Rangers Elliott and Poley) The Rangers brought [REDACTED] onboard and did a quick medical assessment of [REDACTED]. While this was happening, the Ranger operating the rescue boat spotted [REDACTED] and her group offshore and started to motor toward them.

Upon arrival at [REDACTED] location Rangers in the rescue boat found CONANT unconscious, not breathing, and being held over the top of the groups kayaks. Rangers brought CONANT, [REDACTED] onboard the rescue boat, leaving their kayaks and equipment behind and immediately begin CPR on CONANT. (See supplemental reports from responding rangers for more detail) The NPS rescue boat responded back to the Grant Village Boat Dock where it was met by additional waiting rescue and medical personnel. See EMS reports for the subsequent medical treatment of CONANT and [REDACTED].

Additional On Scene Investigation

Initial written witness statements were taken from all parties involved on scene at the time of the incident, with the exception of [REDACTED] who was transported from the incident scene by ambulance to the Lake Clinic. [REDACTED] was later interviewed by Ranger Bock at his hotel in Cody, WY the following day where he also provided a typed statement that he had prepared himself. Rescue units from the Lake District Boat Patrol were on scene at the time of the initial incident and performed a search of the West Thumb waters to locate missing kayaks and equipment left on the water after the incident. It is believed that the only equipment not accounted for multiple hours later was CONANT's kayak, the OARS hypothermic bag, multiple kayak paddles, and a single throw bag. CONANT's kayak was found multiple days later near Breeze Point (See supplemental report by Ranger Elliott)

OARS had a van full of kayak equipment and kayak equipment staged on the beach for other tours. At the time of the incident all kayak equipment that could be positively identified as being involved in the incident was impounded for investigative purposes and removed from the scene to a secure NPS facility by NPS personnel. This would include kayaks, paddles, life vests, throw bags, pumps, etc. (See photo logs)

CONANT's two personal backpacks were secured by investigators from the OARS company van and later turned over to the Teton County Coroner.

CONANT's clothes, which were reported to be pants and a shirt that he was wearing at the time of the incident were cut from his person by rescuers during his medical treatment. Investigators were unable to locate them. It is believed that they were gathered with medical waste and trash from the incident scene and mistakenly discarded.

Follow-Up Investigation

A review of Yellowstone National Park records shows OARS commercial use authorization (CUA13-120) ie, their permit to do kayak (non-motorized boat) trips in Yellowstone is in good standing. Additionally all four guides involved in the incident have valid "guide cards" as required by the terms and conditions of their permit. Nothing in my investigation has revealed that any of the guides involved in the incident had done anything to violate any of the terms or conditions of their companies kayak CUA.

Investigators took photographs of all kayaks and equipment involved in the incident as well as performed a basic visual inspection of all the kayak's and equipment involved. Nothing out of ordinary was found. (See photologs) All equipment with the exception of CONANT's kayak and PFD were returned to OARS management. CONANT's PFD and kayak remain in evidence/storage at the Grant Ranger Station pending further direction from OSHA authorities.

Investigators conducted personal interviews with [REDACTED] but as of this report had not conducted face to face interviews with anyone else involved in this incident. Multiple attempts to reach [REDACTED] for a follow-up personal interview have proved unsuccessful.

During my investigation I consulted with agents from the National Park Service Investigative Services Branch who stated their involvement in this investigation was not warranted at this time.

Nothing in my initial investigation of the incident would lead me to believe that alcohol and/or drug use played any role in the events of this day.

Nothing in my investigation revealed any violation of park regulations in this incident. No citations were issued to anyone involved.

Contributing Factors / Cause of Death

As of the writing of the investigative report the official cause of CONANT's death has yet to be determined by the Teton County Coroner. For the contributing factors and cause of death we will have to await the official report from the Coroner's office. (See the Coroner's report for additional information)

Critical supplemental attachments to this report

Supplement reports from rescue boat operators
 Yellowstone National Park Dispatch Center Radio/Phone logs
 Oars Guide Initial Written Statements
 Client Initial Written Statements
 [REDACTED] Written Statement
 OARS CUA Copy
 OARS current 2017 Guide List
 Additional misc. supplemental reports
End of Report

General report:

Incident: NP17079324 EMS (Medical Injury/Illness/Death) @06/14/2017 17:58 (YNP GRAND LOOP RD, YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK, TETON WY 82190 (WEST THUMB GEYSER BASIN) (Region: IMR, State/Zone: WY, Area: YELL, Site: SNAKE)) (YELL Snake SAR-Timothy CONANT - OARS Guide fa

Task: T170263519 [Review - Closed] Due: 07/11/2017 17:29 #704 BOCK, R. ->#1183 WILKINSON, T. [Low] NP17079324 EMS (Medical Injury/Illness/Death) @06/14/2017 17:58 (YNP GRAND LOOP RD, YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK, TETON WY 82190 (WEST THUMB GEYSER BASIN) (Region: I

Author: #704 BOCK, R. **Report time:** 07/10/2017 17:28

Entered by: #704 BOCK, R. **Entered time:** 07/10/2017 17:28

Remarks: Supplemental

Narrative:

Summary

On 6/14/17 I responded to the report of persons in the water of Yellowstone Lake near the thermal area of the West Thumb Geyser Basin in Yellowstone National Park. I assisted peripherally with Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) of one victim and assisted US Park Ranger (USPR) F. Deluca with the subsequent investigation. As a result of the incident, one male was pronounced dead and one male was treated and released for hypothermia.

Incident

On 6/14/17 while restocking park service vessels at the Bridge Bay Marina after an earlier boating incident, I received the report of overturned kayaks with people in the water near West Thumb. I responded to the incident via my patrol car with USPR J. Dunning. USPR Dunning stated enroute that he had received a phone message from his girlfriend saying she was having an emergency and needed help at about 1745 hrs. USPR Dunning then called Yellowstone Park Dispatch relaying the information at about 1746 hrs. Upon arrival, I checked in with USPR and scene Incident Commander F. Deluca. I observed that CPR was being conducted on one white male on the service dock and a second male was sitting in the rear deck of the NPS vessel tied up alongside the dock. I observed a [REDACTED] female wet from the waist down, later identified as [REDACTED] and asked her if she was cold. [REDACTED] was visibly distraught and shivering. I asked her if she was ok and if she needed any medical assistance. She shook her head side to side indicating no and I escorted her to my patrol vehicle and placed her in the front passenger seat with the heat on and doors unlocked. I then went directly to where I had observed the second male, later identified as [REDACTED] still sitting in the aft deck of the park vessel and escorted him to a waiting park ambulance with an ALS crew.

USPR Deluca assigned me to assist with the subsequent investigation. Through those witness statements, oral statements and interviews, the following is what I learned to have occurred on the afternoon/evening of June 14, 2017.

According to [REDACTED] kayak guide for Oars, a group of three guides and nine clients met at the Grant Marina for a kayak paddle out to the "Basin Geysers" located north of the Grant Marina. [REDACTED] said the trip typically takes 3-3.5 hours. [REDACTED] said the guides went through all the safety talks and procedures with the clients. The three Oars guides with the group were [REDACTED] Timothy Conant and [REDACTED] another Oars guide was waiting back at the marina and was in charge of food.

I asked what specifically is covered in the safety and procedure talks, and [REDACTED] said they explain how to get in and out of the boats on shore, adjust the rudder foot pedals, weight distribution, how to use the paddles and when they hear a whistle blow; once means to get their attention and three times means for the group to head to shore. She continued saying that they also size the personal floatation devices (PFDs) and make sure they are fit properly. I asked if the clients are shown how to wet exit from their kayak and [REDACTED] said no. I asked if the clients are shown or talked through how to get back into their kayaks if they capsize and [REDACTED] said no. I asked besides PFDs, what sort of safety devices are utilized or provided to the clients and

guides. [REDACTED] said that each of the clients are provided a bilge pump which is strapped to the top decking of the kayak. Each of the guides are provided a paddle float, throw bag and whistle and that within the group there is a dry bag which contains a "Hypothermia bag" which the Lead Guide has attached to their kayak. [REDACTED] stated she learned after the accident that there is an emergency phone contained in another dry bag in the Lead Guide's kayak. I asked [REDACTED] if she had used a paddle float before and she stated no. I asked if that was one of the things Oars had covered with her during her training and she stated no. I asked if she had training on how to get someone back into their boat if someone capsized and she stated no. I asked who the Lead Guide was for this trip and [REDACTED] stated it was Conant. [REDACTED] stated each of the guides along with one client were in single occupancy kayaks and the remaining 8 clients were in tandem kayaks for a total of 4 tandem kayaks.

According to witness statement reports the group paddled out to the "Basin Geyer" without incident and were paddling back towards the Grant Marina when one of the clients, later identified as [REDACTED] capsized his kayak and went in the water. According to [REDACTED] statement, the wind was blowing right to left coming from shore and that he started to notice additional water in the bottom cockpit of his kayak. I asked [REDACTED] if he thought this was due to water dripping in from his paddles or water coming in over the edge of the cockpit. [REDACTED] explained neither, that it seemed more to him of a small leak as he remembered his rear-end getting wet even though he sat in a seat somewhat elevated above the floor of the kayak. [REDACTED] explained that a gust of wind hit him and with the shift in water weight moving to the left side of his kayak he was unable to counter the weight shift and capsized to the left side of his kayak. [REDACTED] noted that the constant wind coming from shore was blowing him farther from shore.

According to all reports, [REDACTED] was closest to [REDACTED] when he capsized and within minutes all three guides were with [REDACTED]. According to reports, the guides up-righted [REDACTED] overturned kayak and according to [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] there was still quite a bit of water inside the kayak after it was up-righted. [REDACTED] said he was helped into back into his kayak and the guides tried to bilge the water out of the cockpit of [REDACTED] kayak. Both [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] said that very shortly after starting to pump the water out of his kayak, Conant's kayak tipped over and Conant was in the water in between his kayak and [REDACTED] kayak. [REDACTED] stated very shortly thereafter she remembers seeing Conant holding onto his overturned kayak and according to [REDACTED] he remembered seeing Conant laying on top of his overturned kayak.

[REDACTED] all indicated in their statements and interviews that trying to pump the water out of [REDACTED] kayak wasn't working and since the kayak was riding too low in the water, additional water continued to come over the edge of the cockpit. [REDACTED] said it was [REDACTED] who suggested towing [REDACTED] to shore since the wind was continuing to blow them farther away from shore and they were not making progress bilging the water.

[REDACTED] both stated that [REDACTED] started out towing [REDACTED] to shore as he hung onto the sides of their kayaks. [REDACTED] said she thought Conant already knew how to get back into his kayak when they started towing [REDACTED] to shore. [REDACTED] said she thought [REDACTED] had the same assumption since as they were starting to paddle away, [REDACTED] told

Conant to bring the hypothermia bag, which was attached to Conant's kayak aft of the cockpit on top of the decking.

According to the statements of clients [REDACTED] they observed Conant's kayak capsize and [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] start towing [REDACTED] back to shore. According to their statements not much progress was being made as the guides and [REDACTED] continued to get blown farther from shore. Both [REDACTED] who were in tandem kayak, paddled out to assist [REDACTED] stated she remembered seeing [REDACTED] coming toward her and [REDACTED] so she disengaged her kayak from [REDACTED] and started paddling back to Conant.

[REDACTED] said she was surprised how far Conant had drifted in what seemed a very short amount of time as Conant was now 25-50 yds away from her.

[REDACTED] towed [REDACTED] to shore near the West Thumb Geyser Basin. Once on shore, both [REDACTED] said they worked together to get [REDACTED] out of his wet clothes and start warming him up. [REDACTED] said he took the tandem kayak and paddled back out to assist [REDACTED] and Conant. [REDACTED] said that after making sure [REDACTED] was in as many dry clothes as possible, she took [REDACTED] single person kayak back out into the water to try and help her brother and Conant. [REDACTED] re-iterates the same but says she stayed her client [REDACTED] to make sure he was ok.

[REDACTED] said when she got closer to Conant, Conant was no longer holding onto his kayak but was 5-10 ft away she estimated. [REDACTED] stated that Conant talked of a throw bag that was wrapped around his leg but she did not see any evidence of it. [REDACTED] said she told Conant to hold onto the back of her kayak so she could start towing him to shore. Instead, Conant held onto the edge of her kayak but moved around her kayak by shuffling his hands along the edges. [REDACTED] said she was with Conant approximately 7-10 minutes before the next person arrived.

[REDACTED] said that it was during this time that she used her personal phone to call for help. [REDACTED] said she first tried calling [REDACTED] to call for additional help but wasn't able to connect. [REDACTED] said she then called her significant other, USPR J. Dunning, who was off duty at the time and she knew would be home. [REDACTED] stated she saw that her phone was at about 10% battery life prior to calling. [REDACTED] said she made contact with USPR Dunning and told him to send help and that they had people in the water. [REDACTED] said the call was scratchy since her service provider is AT&T and Verizon tends to work better in that area. She also said the battery life on her phone went from 10% to 0% in about a minute and a half and was then dead. [REDACTED] said after making contact with USPR Dunning, she started paddling towards shore. The time stamp according to USPR Dunning's cell phone log is 1741 hrs. The initial phone call was 1 minute 52 seconds. The phone call records show USPR Dunning tried calling [REDACTED] back 3 times at 1743, 1744 and 1744 hrs then phoned Yellowstone Park Dispatch at 1745 hrs to relay the information. According to USPR Dunning, [REDACTED] asked if National Park Service could come help and there were 2 people in the water. USPR Dunning said the phone call became very scratchy early in the conversation and remembered hearing that [REDACTED] was near the geyser basin. USPR Dunning stated that Yellowstone Park Dispatch requested additional information and he tried to call [REDACTED] back but [REDACTED] phone went straight to voicemail. Phone records show USPR Dunning tried re-contacting [REDACTED] multiple times

thereafter but was not able to make contact with her until he arrived on scene with me.

According to both [REDACTED] when [REDACTED] arrived back with [REDACTED] Conant was still responsive but sluggish. They both state that together they tried to lift Conant out of the water into the empty seat of his tandem kayak but were unsuccessful. By the time [REDACTED] arrived on scene, Conant was completely unresponsive according to both [REDACTED]. With all three, [REDACTED] they were able to lift Conant out of the water into [REDACTED] kayak. [REDACTED] said that [REDACTED] was able to hold Conant against his chest keeping him out of the water. [REDACTED] stated that she and [REDACTED] broke their kayak paddles in half making them more like a canoe paddle and started paddling to shore. Both said they didn't make it very far with the waves and wind. They then used the paddles to wave and blew their whistles to get the attention of the park service vessel now on the water.

According to [REDACTED] mother to [REDACTED] after [REDACTED] and Conant capsized and [REDACTED] left to assist, she along with other daughter and [REDACTED] with her granddaughter started paddling towards the Grant Marina to get additional help. [REDACTED] said they were arriving at the Grant Marina when the park service vessel was leaving. She said they gave the park rangers onboard additional directions to where the group was located.

According to [REDACTED] after the kayaks containing [REDACTED] [REDACTED] headed towards Grant Marina, they paddled back to the geyser basin to within shouting distance of bystanders on the boardwalk. They both state that they were able to make contact with bystanders and to have them call 911 to get help. [REDACTED] state that they got back to the Grant Marina around 1830 hrs.

According to [REDACTED] the park service vessel located he and [REDACTED] first and quickly loaded them up. [REDACTED] told the rangers there was a still another person in the water and the park service vessel headed towards that. [REDACTED] said he was placed in a hypothermia bag on the vessel. All accounts state that once the park service vessel located [REDACTED] and Conant, all were loaded onto the park service vessel and CPR was initiated on Conant. [REDACTED] stated he assisted park rangers with CPR on the ride back to Grant Marina where Conant was transferred from the park service vessel to the dock where CPR was continued.

This ends my report of what occurred on the water of Yellowstone Lake near the West Thumb Geyser Basin on June 14th, 2017.

Supplementary report:

Incident: NP17079324 EMS (Medical Injury/Illness/Death) @06/14/2017 17:58 (YNP GRAND LOOP RD, YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK, TETON WY 82190 (WEST THUMB GEYSER BASIN) (Region: IMR, State/Zone: WY, Area: YELL, Site: SNAKE)) (YELL Snake SAR-Timothy CONANT - OARS Guide fa

Task: T170253243 [Init rpt - Closed] Due: 07/06/2017 10:57 #1183 WILKINSON, T. ->#1183 WILKINSON, T. [Low] CONANT SAR NP17079324 EMS (Medical Injury/Illness/Death) @06/14/2017 17:58 (YNP GRAND LOOP RD, YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK, TETON WY 82190 (WEST THUMB GEYSE

Author: #376 POLEY, J. **Report time:** 06/22/2017 00:51

Entered by: #376 POLEY, J. **Entered time:** 06/22/2017 00:51

Remarks:

Narrative:

On 06/14/2017 at approximately 1758 Hrs, the Yellowstone Communications Center called Grant Patrol asking for a phone call. I called the Com Center and was notified that 7L37, Jason Dunning a Lake Ranger had called to notify them that his girlfriend [REDACTED] (who is an OARS Kayak Guide), had called him, stating that she was on a kayak trip on Lake Yellowstone somewhere in the West Thumb Area and that they had a couple of kayaks capsized with people in the water. Cell phone reception wasn't very good and Ranger Dunning was unable to call her back for more info. I notified Rangers DeLuca and Elliott that we might have people in the water somewhere in the area of West Thumb, while the Com Center attempted to find out more information.

The Grant Visitor Center called Grant Patrol by radio to notify us that a visitor had walked in and notified them that there were some stranded kayakers near the West Thumb Geyser Basin.

Ranger Chuvarsky who was in the area because of a previous incident drove to the West Thumb Geyser Basin to see if he could see anything from the board walk area.

Ranger DeLuca took incident command while, Ranger Elliott and I responded to the West Thumb Geyser Basin Area by National Park Service Vessel Eagle, from the Grant Marina. Just outside of the Grant Marina in the area of the Grant Campground two blue tandem kayaks flagged us down by waving their arms and kayak paddles above their heads. They said they were part of an Oars Trip and that there were people in the water. I asked them where at, and they said they were in the area of the Geyser Basin and they pointed towards the closest area of steam coming from the Basin.

I observed another kayak paddling back towards the marina in the area of the Grant Campground I-Loop. The occupants didn't appear to be in distress and didn't try to flag us down.

On the shore south of the Geyser Basin (N 44 24.787, W 11 34.034), Ranger Elliott and I observed two individuals [REDACTED] male Victim #1, who was an OARS Client, and [REDACTED] female later identified as [REDACTED] who is an OARS Kayak Guide, flagging us down.

Victim #1 was sitting visibly shivering on shore wearing a down jacket, a shirt on his lap, and a dry bag over his feet. The rest of his clothes and his shoes were lying next to him in a pile on the shore line.

[REDACTED] was behind the male supporting him in the seated position and was rubbing his arms and back vigorously attempting to keep him warm. At this time [REDACTED] was wearing a t-shirt, long pants, and baseball cap. [REDACTED] had given her jacket and button up shirt to Victim #1 removing his wet clothes and placing his feet into a dry bag attempting to warm him up.

I asked Victim #1 if he had any medical issues or if there was anything wrong with him other than that he was wet and cold. He stated that other than being wet and cold [REDACTED] he was fine.

I asked them if there was anyone else in the water and how many others were there, [REDACTED] stated that there was at least one other person in the water that had capsized and that there was a group still out on the water.

I assisted [REDACTED] and Victim #1 back to the boat, which wasn't able to come completely to shore due to how shallow the water was. After getting both individuals on board, getting them wrapped up in sleeping bags, and making sure they were ok, we headed back out on to the water to a group of blue kayaks approximately a quarter mile off shore.

Upon arrival I observed 4 kayaks grouped together with 3 individuals seated in the kayaks and one individual a white male Victim #2, who was an OARS Kayak Guide, lying across a kayak unresponsive. He was wearing a red life jacket, brown pants, and a black shirt. His complexion was pale and purple, his lips were purple, he had a red mark on his chin, and his pupils were dilated. [REDACTED] who was on scene told Ranger Elliott and I that Victim #2 had been in the water for 20-30 minutes and was unresponsive. With the assistance of the kayakers, Ranger Elliott and I brought the individual on board the Eagle. At this time we removed the life jacket and shirt attaching the AED which advised no shock. I then called CPR in progress and requested a MedFlight. Ranger Elliott drove the Eagle back to the marina while I performed chest compressions, assisted by one of the other kayakers, while another kayaker supported his air way.

Back at the marina I assisted other Rangers with placing the individual on the dock for a larger working area to better assist with CPR. Rangers Elliott, Chuvarsky, and Derene worked on the ALS side of the incident while I supported the airway and performed rescue breathes via Bag Valve Mask. Rangers Brearley, Goins, Suarez, Niederhardt, and others performed rotations on chest compressions. Once the Flight Medics arrived I assisted with loading the individual onto a back board and gurney before transferring him to the ambulance while Ranger Chuvarsky continued to perform chest compressions.

After the ambulance cleared the scene heading to the heli-spot, I assisted Rangers Derene and Bock with taking witness statements and identifying guides and clients.

I assisted two National Park Service Maintenance Personnel, Sazima and Stoorza with placing the kayaks, life jackets, pumps, and kayak paddles into the Maintenance Stake Bed truck before securing them in the Berger Barn.

Victim #1 was transported to the Lake Clinic by ambulance.

Ext. doc. occ report [PDF, 474.55 KB]:

Incident: NP17079324 EMS (Medical Injury/Illness/Death) @06/14/2017 17:58 (YNP GRAND LOOP RD, YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK, TETON WY 82190 (WEST THUMB GEYSER BASIN) (Region: IMR, State/Zone: WY, Area: YELL, Site: SNAKE)) (YELL Snake SAR-Timothy CONANT - OARS Guide fa

Task: T170253243 [Init rpt - Closed] Due: 07/06/2017 10:57 #1183 WILKINSON, T. ->#1183 WILKINSON, T. [Low] CONANT SAR NP17079324 EMS (Medical Injury/Illness/Death) @06/14/2017 17:58 (YNP GRAND LOOP RD, YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK, TETON WY 82190 (WEST THUMB GEYSE

Author: #2489 DELUCA, F. **Report time:** 06/18/2017 14:56

Entered by: #2489 DELUCA, F. **Entered time:** 06/18/2017 14:56

Person: [REDACTED]

Address: [REDACTED]

Vehicle:

Officer:

Remarks: Statement from first kayaker picked up on beach

Ext. doc. occ report [PDF, 247.55 KB]:

Incident: NP17079324 EMS (Medical Injury/Illness/Death) @06/14/2017 17:58 (YNP GRAND LOOP RD, YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK, TETON WY 82190 (WEST THUMB GEYSER BASIN) (Region: IMR, State/Zone: WY, Area: YELL, Site: SNAKE)) (YELL Snake SAR-Timothy CONANT - OARS Guide fa

Task: T170253243 [Init rpt - Closed] Due: 07/06/2017 10:57 #1183 WILKINSON, T. ->#1183 WILKINSON, T. [Low] CONANT SAR NP17079324 EMS (Medical Injury/Illness/Death) @06/14/2017 17:58 (YNP GRAND LOOP RD, YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK, TETON WY 82190 (WEST THUMB GEYSE

Author: #2489 DELUCA, F. **Report time:** 06/18/2017 14:57

Entered by: #2489 DELUCA, F. **Entered time:** 06/18/2017 14:57

Person:

Address:

Vehicle:

Officer:

Remarks: YELL

Ext. doc. occ report [PDF, 1018.78 KB]:

Incident: NP17079324 EMS (Medical Injury/Illness/Death) @06/14/2017 17:58 (YNP GRAND LOOP RD, YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK, TETON WY 82190 (WEST THUMB GEYSER BASIN) (Region: IMR, State/Zone: WY, Area: YELL, Site: SNAKE)) (YELL Snake SAR-Timothy CONANT - OARS Guide fa

Task: T170253243 [Init rpt - Closed] Due: 07/06/2017 10:57 #1183 WILKINSON, T. ->#1183 WILKINSON, T. [Low] CONANT SAR NP17079324 EMS (Medical Injury/Illness/Death) @06/14/2017 17:58 (YNP GRAND LOOP RD, YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK, TETON WY 82190 (WEST THUMB GEYSE

Author: #2489 DELUCA, F. **Report time:** 06/18/2017 14:58

Entered by: #2489 DELUCA, F. **Entered time:** 06/18/2017 14:58

Person:

Address:

Vehicle:

Officer:

Remarks: Initial statements from two guides on water and guides back at van

Ext. doc. occ report [PDF, 35.92 KB]:

Incident: NP17079324 EMS (Medical Injury/Illness/Death) @06/14/2017 17:58 (YNP GRAND LOOP RD, YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK, TETON WY 82190 (WEST THUMB GEYSER BASIN) (Region: IMR, State/Zone: WY, Area: YELL, Site: SNAKE)) (YELL Snake SAR-Timothy CONANT - OARS Guide fa

Task: T170253243 [Init rpt - Closed] Due: 07/06/2017 10:57 #1183 WILKINSON, T. ->#1183 WILKINSON, T. [Low] CONANT SAR NP17079324 EMS (Medical Injury/Illness/Death) @06/14/2017 17:58 (YNP GRAND LOOP RD, YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK, TETON WY 82190 (WEST THUMB GEYSE

Author: #2489 DELUCA, F. **Report time:** 06/18/2017 14:59

Entered by: #2489 DELUCA, F. **Entered time:** 06/18/2017 14:59

Person: CONANT, TIMOTHY HAYDEN RYAN [DECEASED] 07/26/1993 (23) M DL:UT [REDACTED]

Address:

Vehicle:

Officer:

Remarks: DL Copy of Deceased Kayaker

Ext. doc. occ report [PDF, 2.63 MB]:

Incident: NP17079324 EMS (Medical Injury/Illness/Death) @06/14/2017 17:58 (YNP GRAND LOOP RD, YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK, TETON WY 82190 (WEST THUMB GEYSER BASIN) (Region: IMR, State/Zone: WY, Area: YELL, Site: SNAKE)) (YELL Snake SAR-Timothy CONANT - OARS Guide fa

Task: T170253243 [Init rpt - Closed] Due: 07/06/2017 10:57 #1183 WILKINSON, T. ->#1183 WILKINSON, T. [Low] CONANT SAR NP17079324 EMS (Medical Injury/Illness/Death) @06/14/2017 17:58 (YNP GRAND LOOP RD, YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK, TETON WY 82190 (WEST THUMB GEYSE

Author: #2489 DELUCA, F. **Report time:** 06/18/2017 15:00

Entered by: #2489 DELUCA, F. **Entered time:** 06/18/2017 15:00

Person:

Address:

Vehicle:

Officer:

Remarks: Initial statements from all kayakers onscene, besides client that was in water.

Ext. doc. occ report [JPG, 3.56 MB]:

Incident: NP17079324 EMS (Medical Injury/Illness/Death) @06/14/2017 17:58 (YNP GRAND LOOP RD, YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK, TETON WY 82190 (WEST THUMB GEYSER BASIN) (Region: IMR, State/Zone: WY, Area: YELL, Site: SNAKE)) (YELL Snake SAR-Timothy CONANT - OARS Guide fa

Task: T170253243 [Init rpt - Closed] Due: 07/06/2017 10:57 #1183 WILKINSON, T. ->#1183 WILKINSON, T. [Low] CONANT SAR NP17079324 EMS (Medical Injury/Illness/Death) @06/14/2017 17:58 (YNP GRAND LOOP RD, YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK, TETON WY 82190 (WEST THUMB GEYSE

Author: #376 POLEY, J. **Report time:** 06/22/2017 00:52

Entered by: #376 POLEY, J. **Entered time:** 06/22/2017 00:52

Person:

Address:

Vehicle:

Officer:

Remarks: Photo of GPS coordinates from rescue of victim #1

Ext. doc. occ report [PDF, 469.69 KB]:

Incident: NP17079324 EMS (Medical Injury/Illness/Death) @06/14/2017 17:58 (YNP GRAND LOOP RD, YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK, TETON WY 82190 (WEST THUMB GEYSER BASIN) (Region: IMR, State/Zone: WY, Area: YELL, Site: SNAKE)) (YELL Snake SAR-Timothy CONANT - OARS Guide fa

Task: T170253243 [Init rpt - Closed] Due: 07/06/2017 10:57 #1183 WILKINSON, T. ->#1183 WILKINSON, T. [Low] CONANT SAR NP17079324 EMS (Medical Injury/Illness/Death) @06/14/2017 17:58 (YNP GRAND LOOP RD, YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK, TETON WY 82190 (WEST THUMB GEYSE

Author: #376 POLEY, J. **Report time:** 06/22/2017 01:11

Entered by: #376 POLEY, J. **Entered time:** 06/22/2017 01:11

Person:

Address:

Vehicle:

Officer:

Remarks: Poley photos

Ext. doc. occ report [DOCX, 45.83 KB]:

Incident: NP17079324 EMS (Medical Injury/Illness/Death) @06/14/2017 17:58 (YNP GRAND LOOP RD, YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK, TETON WY 82190 (WEST THUMB GEYSER BASIN) (Region: IMR, State/Zone: WY, Area: YELL, Site: SNAKE)) (YELL Snake SAR-Timothy CONANT - OARS Guide fa

Task: T170253243 [Init rpt - Closed] Due: 07/06/2017 10:57 #1183 WILKINSON, T. ->#1183 WILKINSON, T. [Low] CONANT SAR NP17079324 EMS (Medical Injury/Illness/Death) @06/14/2017 17:58 (YNP GRAND LOOP RD, YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK, TETON WY 82190 (WEST THUMB GEYSE

Author: #376 POLEY, J. **Report time:** 06/22/2017 01:12

Entered by: #376 POLEY, J. **Entered time:** 06/22/2017 01:12

Person:

Address:

Vehicle:

Officer:

Remarks: Photo Log Poley

Ext. doc. occ report [PDF, 174.86 KB]:

Incident: NP17079324 EMS (Medical Injury/Illness/Death) @06/14/2017 17:58 (YNP GRAND LOOP RD, YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK, TETON WY 82190 (WEST THUMB GEYSER BASIN) (Region: IMR, State/Zone: WY, Area: YELL, Site: SNAKE)) (YELL Snake SAR-Timothy CONANT - OARS Guide fa

Task: T170253243 [Init rpt - Closed] Due: 07/06/2017 10:57 #1183 WILKINSON, T. ->#1183 WILKINSON, T. [Low] CONANT SAR NP17079324 EMS (Medical Injury/Illness/Death) @06/14/2017 17:58 (YNP GRAND LOOP RD, YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK, TETON WY 82190 (WEST THUMB GEYSE

Author: #2489 DELUCA, F. **Report time:** 07/04/2017 16:14

Entered by: #2489 DELUCA, F. **Entered time:** 07/04/2017 16:14

Person: OARS

Address:

Vehicle:

Officer:

Remarks: OARS Active Guides

Ext. doc. occ report [PDF, 1.61 MB]:

Incident: NP17079324 EMS (Medical Injury/Illness/Death) @06/14/2017 17:58 (YNP GRAND LOOP RD, YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK, TETON WY 82190 (WEST THUMB GEYSER BASIN) (Region: IMR, State/Zone: WY, Area: YELL, Site: SNAKE)) (YELL Snake SAR-Timothy CONANT - OARS Guide fa

Task: T170253243 [Init rpt - Closed] Due: 07/06/2017 10:57 #1183 WILKINSON, T. ->#1183 WILKINSON, T. [Low] CONANT SAR NP17079324 EMS (Medical Injury/Illness/Death) @06/14/2017 17:58 (YNP GRAND LOOP RD, YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK, TETON WY 82190 (WEST THUMB GEYSE

Author: #2489 DELUCA, F. **Report time:** 07/04/2017 16:20

Entered by: #2489 DELUCA, F. **Entered time:** 07/04/2017 16:20

Person: OARS

Address:

Vehicle:

Officer:

Remarks: OARS Current 2017 CUA for Kayak

Ext. doc. occ report [PDF, 62.86 KB]:

Incident: NP17079324 EMS (Medical Injury/Illness/Death) @06/14/2017 17:58 (YNP GRAND LOOP RD, YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK, TETON WY 82190 (WEST THUMB GEYSER BASIN) (Region: IMR, State/Zone: WY, Area: YELL, Site: SNAKE)) (YELL Snake SAR-Timothy CONANT - OARS Guide fa

Task: T170253243 [Init rpt - Closed] Due: 07/06/2017 10:57 #1183 WILKINSON, T. ->#1183 WILKINSON, T. [Low] CONANT SAR NP17079324 EMS (Medical Injury/Illness/Death) @06/14/2017 17:58 (YNP GRAND LOOP RD, YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK, TETON WY 82190 (WEST THUMB GEYSE

Author: #2489 DELUCA, F. **Report time:** 07/04/2017 16:21

Entered by: #2489 DELUCA, F. **Entered time:** 07/04/2017 16:21

Person:

Address:

Vehicle:

Officer:

Remarks: CONANT Dispatch Logs

Ext. doc. occ report [PDF, 256.13 KB]:

Incident: NP17079324 EMS (Medical Injury/Illness/Death) @06/14/2017 17:58 (YNP GRAND LOOP RD, YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK, TETON WY 82190 (WEST THUMB GEYSER BASIN) (Region: IMR, State/Zone: WY, Area: YELL, Site: SNAKE)) (YELL Snake SAR-Timothy CONANT - OARS Guide fa

Task: T170253243 [Init rpt - Closed] Due: 07/06/2017 10:57 #1183 WILKINSON, T. ->#1183 WILKINSON, T. [Low] CONANT SAR NP17079324 EMS (Medical Injury/Illness/Death) @06/14/2017 17:58 (YNP GRAND LOOP RD, YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK, TETON WY 82190 (WEST THUMB GEYSE

Author: #2489 DELUCA, F. **Report time:** 07/04/2017 20:09

Entered by: #2489 DELUCA, F. **Entered time:** 07/04/2017 20:09

Person:

Address:

Vehicle:

Officer:

Remarks: Photolog of CONANT's PFD

Ext. doc. occ report [PDF, 173.32 KB]:

Incident: NP17079324 EMS (Medical Injury/Illness/Death) @06/14/2017 17:58 (YNP GRAND LOOP RD, YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK, TETON WY 82190 (WEST THUMB GEYSER BASIN) (Region: IMR, State/Zone: WY, Area: YELL, Site: SNAKE)) (YELL Snake SAR-Timothy CONANT - OARS Guide fa

Task: T170253243 [Init rpt - Closed] Due: 07/06/2017 10:57 #1183 WILKINSON, T. ->#1183 WILKINSON, T. [Low] CONANT SAR NP17079324 EMS (Medical Injury/Illness/Death) @06/14/2017 17:58 (YNP GRAND LOOP RD, YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK, TETON WY 82190 (WEST THUMB GEYSE

Author: #2489 DELUCA, F. **Report time:** 07/04/2017 20:40

Entered by: #2489 DELUCA, F. **Entered time:** 07/04/2017 20:40

Person:

Address:

Vehicle:

Officer:

Remarks: Photolog of CONANT's kayak

Ext. doc. occ report [PDF, 279.70 KB]:

Incident: NP17079324 EMS (Medical Injury/Illness/Death) @06/14/2017 17:58 (YNP GRAND LOOP RD, YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK, TETON WY 82190 (WEST THUMB GEYSER BASIN) (Region: IMR, State/Zone: WY, Area: YELL, Site: SNAKE)) (YELL Snake SAR-Timothy CONANT - OARS Guide fa

Task: T170253243 [Init rpt - Closed] Due: 07/06/2017 10:57 #1183 WILKINSON, T. ->#1183 WILKINSON, T. [Low] CONANT SAR NP17079324 EMS (Medical Injury/Illness/Death) @06/14/2017 17:58 (YNP GRAND LOOP RD, YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK, TETON WY 82190 (WEST THUMB GEYSE

Author: #2489 DELUCA, F. **Report time:** 07/04/2017 20:41

Entered by: #2489 DELUCA, F. **Entered time:** 07/04/2017 20:41

Person:

Address:

Vehicle:

Officer:

Remarks: OARS Kayaks and Equip 1

Ext. doc. occ report [PDF, 382.27 KB]:

Incident: NP17079324 EMS (Medical Injury/Illness/Death) @06/14/2017 17:58 (YNP GRAND LOOP RD, YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK, TETON WY 82190 (WEST THUMB GEYSER BASIN) (Region: IMR, State/Zone: WY, Area: YELL, Site: SNAKE)) (YELL Snake SAR-Timothy CONANT - OARS Guide fa

Task: T170253243 [Init rpt - Closed] Due: 07/06/2017 10:57 #1183 WILKINSON, T. ->#1183 WILKINSON, T. [Low] CONANT SAR NP17079324 EMS (Medical Injury/Illness/Death) @06/14/2017 17:58 (YNP GRAND LOOP RD, YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK, TETON WY 82190 (WEST THUMB GEYSE

Author: #2489 DELUCA, F. **Report time:** 07/04/2017 20:43

Entered by: #2489 DELUCA, F. **Entered time:** 07/04/2017 20:43

Person:
 Address:
 Vehicle:
 Officer:
 Remarks: OARS Kayaks and Equip 2

Ext. doc. occ report [PDF, 255.22 KB]:

Incident: NP17079324 EMS (Medical Injury/Illness/Death) @06/14/2017 17:58 (YNP GRAND LOOP RD, YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK, TETON WY 82190 (WEST THUMB GEYSER BASIN) (Region: IMR, State/Zone: WY, Area: YELL, Site: SNAKE)) (YELL Snake SAR-Timothy CONANT - OARS Guide fa
 Task: T170263519 [Review - Closed] Due: 07/11/2017 17:29 #704 BOCK, R. ->#1183 WILKINSON, T. [Low] NP17079324 EMS (Medical Injury/Illness/Death) @06/14/2017 17:58 (YNP GRAND LOOP RD, YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK, TETON WY 82190 (WEST THUMB GEYSER BASIN) (Region: I
 Author: #704 BOCK, R. *Report time:* 07/10/2017 17:32
 Entered by: #704 BOCK, R. *Entered time:* 07/10/2017 17:32

Person:
 Address:
 Vehicle:
 Officer:
 Remarks: USPR Dunning phone log

Ext. doc. occ report [PDF, 188.90 KB]:

Incident: NP17079324 EMS (Medical Injury/Illness/Death) @06/14/2017 17:58 (YNP GRAND LOOP RD, YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK, TETON WY 82190 (WEST THUMB GEYSER BASIN) (Region: IMR, State/Zone: WY, Area: YELL, Site: SNAKE)) (YELL Snake SAR-Timothy CONANT - OARS Guide fa
 Task: T170263519 [Review - Closed] Due: 07/11/2017 17:29 #704 BOCK, R. ->#1183 WILKINSON, T. [Low] NP17079324 EMS (Medical Injury/Illness/Death) @06/14/2017 17:58 (YNP GRAND LOOP RD, YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK, TETON WY 82190 (WEST THUMB GEYSER BASIN) (Region: I
 Author: #704 BOCK, R. *Report time:* 07/10/2017 17:36
 Entered by: #704 BOCK, R. *Entered time:* 07/10/2017 17:36

Person:
 Address:
 Vehicle:
 Officer:
 Remarks:

General Report

U.S. Department of the Interior , National Park Service

Printed: 09/15/2017 08:52 by 174

Incident: NP17079324 EMS (Medical Injury/Illness/Death) @06/14/2017 17:58

Author: #2489 DELUCA, F.

Report time: 07/04/2017 16:10

Entered by: #2489 DELUCA, F.

Entered time: 07/04/2017 16:10

Remarks:

17079327 CONANT Fatality Report

Report:

Investigative Narrative for IMARS:

Below is an investigative summary of information gathered and compiled through personal interviews, witness statements, supplemental report consolidation, and first hand investigator knowledge of the incident that happened on June 14th, 2017 at approximately 1800hrs in the West Thumb Geyser Basin of Yellowstone National Park that resulted in the death of OARS kayak guide Timothy CONANT.

Incident Summary

On June 14, 2017 Yellowstone Rangers responded with multiple rescue boats and ground units to reports of a commercial kayak group in trouble, with people in the water off West Thumb Geyser Basin. The first arriving rescue boat discovered one victim already on shore who had been rescued by guides/clients and soon located a second victim still in the water approximately a quarter mile off shore. Rangers brought this second victim aboard their rescue boat and began CPR. The patient was returned to the boat ramp where resuscitation efforts continued and the patient was moved to a waiting helicopter. Efforts to revive this patient proved unsuccessful and the patient was pronounced deceased on the helipad. The first kayaker that had been rescued was transported to the local park medical clinic, treated for hypothermia, and later released. A follow-up investigation into the events of the incident is being conducted by the National Park Service and the Teton County Coroner's Office.

Involved Company Info

OARS

PO Box 67

Angels Camp, CA 95222

O.A.R.S is National Park Service approved concession company based out Angel Camp, California with a local office based in Jackson, Wyoming. OARS has been a Yellowstone National Park non-motorized commercial permit holder since 1996. When working in the Grant Village area the company primarily leads half day kayak trips out of the Grant Village Marina to the West Thumb Geyser Basin Area and back. OARS has no resent history of safety violations with the NPS and has no resent history of contacts by National Park Service Law Enforcement officers for violations of park regulations of any kind.

Involved Kayak Guide Information

Timothy Hayden Ryan CONANT (Deceased)

Salt Lake City, UT 84102

DOB 07/26/93 DL [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] (Not on the water, back at OARS van)

[REDACTED]

Involved Client Information

[REDACTED]

(Transported to local Clinic)

[REDACTED]

Training/Experience

It was CONANT's first season working as kayak guide for OARS and it is unknown if he had any prior kayak experience or any experience kayaking on Yellowstone Lake. This was [REDACTED] first season working as a kayak guide with OARS as well and she stated she had only been in a kayak five times prior in her life before becoming a guide. When asked during a follow-up interview [REDACTED] stated that she had received no kayak safety training prior to leading trips with OARS. She further stated that she received no training on what to do if a client or co-worker fell out of a kayak into the water. [REDACTED] further stated that she also received no training on how to contact authorities for help in the event of an emergency on the water. [REDACTED] level of training and experience is unknown at the time of this report.

Personal Protective Equipment

On the day of the incident none of the involved guides or clients was wearing any type of dry or wet type of protective kayak

clothing. CONANT was believed to be dressed in a ball cap, shirt, light weight pants, and Teva type sandals. He was also wearing a red personal flotation device. (See Coroners report for more information)

All guides and clients were found to be wearing coast guard approved personal flotation devices suitable for kayaking. When found, CONANT was still wearing his PFD, which was then cut off him by rescue personnel. This PFD was secured by investigators as evidence. (See photo logs)

Two of the guides kayaks were equipped with rescue "throw bags" however they continually referred to them as "towropes" so there is some question as to if they knew what the primary use of a throw bag actually is. CONANT's kayak may have been equipped with an additional throw bag as well, however that was never found.

Inside one of the guide kayak's investigators found one paddle float while reviewing the involved equipment; however it is unclear which guide was using this kayak. All kayaks were equipped with hand pumps to pump out water. The guides claim that CONANT had the OARS "hypothermic" bag however that has not been located as of this report.

Water Conditions

Yellowstone Lake, where the incident took place is approximately 132 square miles with depths of up too approximately 430 feet. Yellowstone Lake is the largest natural freshwater lake in the United States that is above 7000 feet. It is roughly 20 miles long and 14 miles wide with 141 miles of shoreline.

Weather Conditions

At the time of the incident the air temperature was approximately 53 degrees Fahrenheit (°F) with a dew point of 35°F and an average humidity of 73 percent. The sky was clear with a variable average wind speed of 13 mph with gusts up 21mph. The temperature of the water was estimated to be about 38-43°F. There were no officially reported storms in the immediate area, however multiple statements from the parties involved indicate high winds and "unfavorable kayaking conditions".

Vessel

The kayak being used by the deceased was a fourteen foot Carolina Perception kayak, blue in color. The kayak is owned by OARS the employer of the deceased. The kayak is a single person kayak, has a rudder for steering that is controlled by two foot pedals located inside the kayak, and has storage compartments both forward and rear in the boat. CONANT's kayak was initially lost in this incident, but was then recovered multiple days later by Grant Boat Patrol adrift on Yellowstone Lake. (See Ranger Elliott's supplemental report)

Investigation

The following is the investigators (Ranger DeLuca) recount of the incident:

The OARS kayak group launched from the Grant Marina beach like any normal day and paddled along the shore toward the West Thumb Geyser Basin on a half day trip. The guides and clients were configured in kayaks as follows:

OARS Guides CONANT, [REDACTED] and Client [REDACTED] were all in Solo kayaks.

Clients [REDACTED] were together in a tandem kayak.

Clients [REDACTED] were together in a tandem kayak.

Clients [REDACTED] were together in a tandem kayak.

Clients [REDACTED] were together in a tandem kayak.

OARS Guide [REDACTED] was not in a kayak during this incident, he remained at the company van back at the marina.

The paddle to West Thumb Geyser Area was uneventful and the group was paddling back to the Grant Marina when the incident occurred. The group was about twenty-five yards off shore, the distance they normally paddle at, with CONANT and [REDACTED] paddling up front with a group of faster paddlers. [REDACTED] was in the rear of the group paddling with the slower paddlers when for an unknown reason [REDACTED] tipped over and fell from his kayak into the water.

[REDACTED] immediately called for assistance from the other two guides who responded to [REDACTED] location in the water. The other clients in the area offered to help but were directed to not put themselves in d [REDACTED] guides and to instead paddle toward shore and remain there till told otherwise. When CONANT and [REDACTED] arrived on scene they were able to upright [REDACTED] kayak and assist [REDACTED] in getting [REDACTED] back into his water filled kayak. Even though [REDACTED] was now seated in his upright kayak he was already showing signs of hypothermia and his kayak was completely filled to the top with water. CONANT, [REDACTED] worked feverishly with hand pumps to remove the water from [REDACTED] kayak as the wind pushed them further and further from shore.

At some point the kayak guides acknowledged among themselves that pumping water out of the [REDACTED] kayak was not happening fast enough for the hypothermic client and they needed to just tow [REDACTED] kayak with him inside it to shore. As the guides were attempting to make the transition to a towing operation, CONANT's kayak rolled to the inside for an unknown reason and he fell from his kayak in-between his kayak and [REDACTED] kayak. There is some speculation on whether CONANT may have hit his head on one of the boats as he fell in between them, however none of the guides

involved could confirm or deny this for sure. Everyone involved did state that CONANT immediately came back up from under the water after falling in, but for some reason did not attempt to get back into his kayak and instead just "bear hugged" the upside down kayak.

stated CONANT did not seem injured but more like he was just catching his breath. Both stated that he appeared to be fine so they focused their attention on rescue and began to paddle in with in tow. stated that they had every indication that CONANT was self-rescuing and still involved in the rescue of the in fact so much so that they were yelling for him to follow behind them and bring the hypothermic bag for the client.

As were paddling toward shore they could now see paddling out toward them to assist but they also could see that CONANT was not following them. and decided that would get into shore and should go back for CONANT.

A short time later arrived on scene with in their tandem kayak and began to assist in g back to shore. At some point on the way back to shore the group discovers the water filled kayak with in it is just too heavy to tow in the wind and ends up back in the water where he is successfully pulled to shore between kayak and tandem kayak. On shore assisted by immediately begins to treat for hypothermia by stripping his clothes and warming him. takes his tandem kayak alone and starts paddling back out toward where he last saw and CONANT. His sister, takes guide kayak and follows her brother back out onto the lake.

stated that as she paddled toward CONANT's last known location it was obvious he had been blown even further off shore but she knew where he was because she could hear him blowing his rescue whistle for help so she paddled in that direction. When was close enough to see CONANT he had stopped blowing the whistle and was now just floating motionless in the water. further stated that CONANT was no longer holding onto his kayak, it was floating a distance away and still upside down. stated that CONANT was still wearing his red personal flotation device and the OARS company white hypothermia bag was also floating in the water nearby.

It was at this point used her personal cellphone to make the first call for help from ANY of the guides in the group. attempted multiple times to call back at the OARS van in the Grant Marina parking area which proved unsuccessful. later stated when being interviewed that she was unaware of the number to reach the National Park Service and did not know that dialing 911 from a cellphone would actually reach Yellowstone National Park Rangers so therefor she dialed her friend directly who happens to be a Yellowstone Ranger. This Ranger received her broken cellphone call and immediately alerted the Yellowstone National Park Dispatch Center who in turn dispatched rescue units to the scene.

stated that when she found CONANT he was still conscious, but seemed very confused. stated that ask him questions to assess his level of alertness but he kept answering inappropriately to her questions by repeatedly refereeing to the "towrope" being wrapped around his legs. stated she saw nothing wrapped around CONANT's legs. also stated that she thought that CONANT sounded like he had "water in his lungs" when he was talking. repeatedly instructed CONANT to hold onto her kayak as she attempted to paddle toward shore. Sometime time later arrived on scene alone in his tandem kayak to assist.

stated that they attempted to load a still conscious CONANT into the empty seat of tandem kayak however CONANT was confused and lethargic at this point and was just not providing enough assistance with the process for them to be successful. stated they were able to hold onto CONANT between the boats and continued to paddle toward shore. estimates that they had been paddling for 7 to 10 minutes when arrived on scene in solo kayak to also assist in the rescue of CONANT.

With three people now on scene. attempted to get CONANT into the empty seat in tandem kayak however they were still unsuccessful and instead were only able to lift CONANT on top of by lying CONANT inside the same seat as With their three kayaks together the group started paddling toward shore once again.

At some point during paddling recalls seeing the NPS rescue boat approaching however she could tell the rescue boat could not see her group be group was too far off shore. She could tell the boat was going toward and her group onshore instead. stated that at this point CONANT was now unconscious and no longer responding, his eyes were rolled back in his head, and his chin was red. stated that and herself were attempting to signal the rescue boat by waving their paddles in the air and yelling.

The NPS rescue boat arrived on scene with (See supplemental reports from Rangers Elliott and Poley) The Rangers brought onboard and did a quick medical assessment of While this was happening, the Ranger operating the rescue boat spotted and her group offshore and started to motor toward

them.

Upon arrival at [REDACTED] location Rangers in the rescue boat found CONANT unconscious, not breathing, and being held over the top of the groups kayaks. Rangers brought CONANT, [REDACTED] onboard the rescue boat, leaving their kayaks and equipment behind and immediately begin CPR on CONANT. (See supplemental reports from responding rangers for more detail) The NPS rescue boat responded back to the Grant Village Boat Dock where it was met by additional waiting rescue and medical personnel. See EMS reports for the subsequent medical treatment of CONANT and [REDACTED]

Additional On Scene Investigation

Initial written witness statements were taken from all parties involved on scene at the time of the incident, with the exception of [REDACTED] who was transported from the incident scene by ambulance to the Lake Clinic. [REDACTED] was later interviewed by Ranger Bock at his hotel in Cody, WY the following day where he also provided a typed statement that he had prepared himself.

Rescue units from the Lake District Boat Patrol were on scene at the time of the initial incident and performed a search of the West Thumb waters to locate missing kayaks and equipment left on the water after the incident. It is believed that the only equipment not accounted for multiple hours later was CONANT's kayak, the OARS hypothermic bag, multiple kayak paddles, and a single throw bag. CONANT's kayak was found multiple days later near Breeze Point (See supplemental report by Ranger Elliott)

OARS had a van full of kayak equipment and kayak equipment staged on the beach for other tours. At the time of the incident all kayak equipment that could be positively identified as being involved in the incident was impounded for investigative purposes and removed from the scene to a secure NPS facility by NPS personnel. This would include kayaks, paddles, life vests, throw bags, pumps, etc. (See photo logs)

CONANT's two personal backpacks were secured by investigators from the OARS company van and later turned over to the Teton County Coroner.

CONANT's clothes, which were reported to be pants and a shirt that he was wearing at the time of the incident were cut from his person by rescuers during his medical treatment. Investigators were unable to locate them. It is believed that they were gathered with medical waste and trash from the incident scene and mistakenly discarded.

Follow-Up Investigation

A review of Yellowstone National Park records shows OARS commercial use authorization (CUA13-120) ie, their permit to do kayak (non-motorized boat) trips in Yellowstone is in good standing. Additionally all four guides involved in the incident have valid "guide cards" as required by the terms and conditions of their permit. Nothing in my investigation has revealed that any of the guides involved in the incident had done anything to violate any of the terms or conditions of their companies kayak CUA.

Investigators took photographs of all kayaks and equipment involved in the incident as well as performed a basic visual inspection of all the kayak's and equipment involved. Nothing out of ordinary was found. (See photologs) All equipment with the exception of CONANT's kayak and PFD were returned to OARS management. CONANT's PFD and kayak remain in evidence/storage at the Grant Ranger Station pending further direction from OSHA authorities.

Investigators conducted personal interviews with [REDACTED] but as of this report had not conducted face to face interviews with anyone else involved in this incident. Multiple attempts to reach [REDACTED] for a follow-up personal interview have proved unsuccessful.

During my investigation I consulted with agents from the National Park Service Investigative Services Branch who stated their involvement in this investigation was not warranted at this time.

Nothing in my initial investigation of the incident would lead me to believe that alcohol and/or drug use played any role in the events of this day.

Nothing in my investigation revealed any violation of park regulations in this incident. No citations were issued to anyone involved.

Contributing Factors / Cause of Death

As of the writing of the investigative report the official cause of CONANT's death has yet to be determined by the Teton County Coroner. For the contributing factors and cause of death we will have to await the official report from the Coroner's office. (See the Coroner's report for additional information)

Critical supplemental attachments to this report

Supplement reports from rescue boat operators

Yellowstone National Park Dispatch Center Radio/Phone logs
Oars Guide Initial Written Statements
Client Initial Written Statements
[REDACTED] Written Statement
OARS CUA Copy
OARS current 2017 Guide List
Additional misc. supplemental reports
End of Report

General Report

U.S. Department of the Interior , National Park Service

Printed: 09/15/2017 08:46 by 174

Incident: NP17079324 EMS (Medical Injury/Illness/Death) @06/14/2017 17:58

Author: #704 BOCK, R.

Report time: 07/10/2017 17:28

Entered by: #704 BOCK, R.

Entered time: 07/10/2017 17:28

Remarks:

Supplemental

Report:

Summary

On 6/14/17 I responded to the report of persons in the water of Yellowstone Lake near the thermal area of the West Thumb Geyser Basin in Yellowstone National Park. I assisted peripherally with Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) of one victim and assisted US Park Ranger (USPR) F. Deluca with the subsequent investigation. As a result of the incident, one male was pronounced dead and one male was treated and released for hypothermia.

Incident

On 6/14/17 while restocking park service vessels at the Bridge Bay Marina after an earlier boating incident, I received the report of overturned kayaks with people in the water near West Thumb. I responded to the incident via my patrol car with USPR J. Dunning. USPR Dunning stated enroute that he had received a phone message from his girlfriend saying she was having an emergency and needed help at about 1745 hrs. USPR Dunning then called Yellowstone Park Dispatch relaying the information at about 1746 hrs.

Upon arrival, I checked in with USPR and scene Incident Commander F. Deluca. I observed that CPR was being conducted on one white male on the service dock and a second male was sitting in the rear deck of the NPS vessel tied up alongside the dock. I observed a [REDACTED] female wet from the waist down, later identified as [REDACTED] and asked her if she was cold. [REDACTED] was visibly distraught and shivering. I asked her if she was ok and if she needed any medical assistance. She shook her head side to side indicating no and I escorted her to my patrol vehicle and placed her in the front passenger seat with the heat on and doors unlocked. I then went directly to where I had observed the second male, later identified as [REDACTED] still sitting in the aft deck of the park vessel and escorted him to a waiting park ambulance with an ALS crew.

USPR Deluca assigned me to assist with the subsequent investigation. Through those witness statements, oral statements and interviews, the following is what I learned to have occurred on the afternoon/evening of June 14, 2017.

According to [REDACTED] kayak guide for Oars, a group of three guides and nine clients met at the Grant Marina for a kayak paddle out to the "Basin Geysers" located north of the Grant Marina. [REDACTED] said the trip typically takes 3-3.5 hours. [REDACTED] said the guides went through all the safety talks and procedures with the clients. The three Oars guides with the group were [REDACTED] Timothy Conant and [REDACTED] another Oars guide was waiting back at the marina and was in charge of food.

I asked what specifically is covered in the safety and procedure talks, and [REDACTED] said they explain how to get in and out of the boats on shore, adjust the rudder foot pedals, weight distribution, how to use the paddles and when they hear a whistle blow; once means to get their attention and three times means for the group to head to shore. She continued saying

that they also size the personal floatation devices (PFDs) and make sure they are fit properly. I asked if the clients are shown how to wet exit from their kayak and [REDACTED] said no. I asked if the clients are shown or talked through how to get back into their kayaks if they capsize and [REDACTED] said no. I asked besides PFDs, what sort of safety devices are utilized or provided to the clients and guides. [REDACTED] said that each of the clients are provided a bilge pump which is strapped to the top decking of the kayak. Each of the guides are provided a paddle float, throw bag and whistle and that within the group there is a dry bag which contains a "Hypothermia bag" which the Lead Guide has attached to their kayak. [REDACTED] stated she learned after the accident that there is an emergency phone contained in another dry bag in the Lead Guide's kayak. I asked [REDACTED] if she had used a paddle float before and she stated no. I asked if that was one of the things Oars had covered with her during her training and she stated no. I asked if she had training on how to get someone back into their boat if someone capsized and she stated no. I asked who the Lead Guide was for this trip and [REDACTED] stated it was Conant.

[REDACTED] stated each of the guides along with one client were in single occupancy kayaks and the remaining 8 clients were in tandem kayaks for a total of 4 tandem kayaks.

According to witness statement reports the group paddled out to the "Basin Geyer" without incident and were paddling back towards the Grant Marina when one of the clients, later identified as [REDACTED] capsized his kayak and went in the water. According to [REDACTED] statement, the wind was blowing right to left coming from shore and that he started to notice additional water in the bottom cockpit of his kayak. I asked [REDACTED] if he thought this was due to water dripping in from his paddles or water coming in over the edge of the cockpit. [REDACTED] explained neither, that it seemed more to him of a small leak as he remembered his rear-end getting wet even though he sat in a seat somewhat elevated above the floor of the kayak.

[REDACTED] explained that a gust of wind hit him and with the shift in water weight moving to the left side of his kayak he was unable to counter the weight shift and capsized to the left side of his kayak. [REDACTED] noted that the constant wind coming from shore was blowing him farther from shore.

According to all reports, [REDACTED] was closest to [REDACTED] when he capsized and within minutes all three guides were with [REDACTED]. According to reports, the guides up-righted [REDACTED] overturned kayak and according to [REDACTED] there was still quite a bit of water inside the kayak after it was up-righted. [REDACTED] said he was helped into back into his kayak and the guides tried to bilge the water out of the cockpit of [REDACTED] kayak. Both [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] said that very shortly after starting to pump the water out of his kayak, Conant's kayak tipped over and Conant was in the water in between his kayak and [REDACTED] kayak. [REDACTED] stated very shortly thereafter she remembers seeing Conant holding onto his overturned kayak and according to [REDACTED] he remembered seeing Conant laying on top of his overturned kayak.

[REDACTED] all indicated in their statements and interviews that trying to pump the water out of [REDACTED] kayak wasn't working and since the kayak was riding too low in the water, additional water continued to come over the edge of the cockpit. [REDACTED] said it was [REDACTED] who suggested towing [REDACTED] to shore since the wind was continuing to blow them farther away from shore and they were not making progress bilging the water.

[REDACTED] both stated that [REDACTED] started out towing [REDACTED] to shore as he hung onto the sides of their kayaks. [REDACTED] said she thought Conant already knew how to get back into his kayak when they started towing [REDACTED] to shore. [REDACTED] said she thought [REDACTED] had the same assumption since as they were starting to paddle away, [REDACTED] told Conant to bring the hypothermia bag, which was attached to Conant's kayak aft of the cockpit on top of the decking.

According to the statements of clients [REDACTED] they observed Conant's kayak capsize and [REDACTED] start towing [REDACTED] back

to shore. According to their statements not much progress was being made as the guides and [REDACTED] continued to get blown farther from shore. Both [REDACTED] who were in tandem kayak, paddled out to assist [REDACTED] stated she remembered seeing [REDACTED] coming toward her and [REDACTED] so she disengaged her kayak from [REDACTED] and started paddling back to Conant. [REDACTED] said she was surprised how far Conant had drifted in what seemed a very short amount of time as Conant was now 25-50 yds away from her.

[REDACTED] towed [REDACTED] to shore near the West Thumb Geyser Basin. Once on shore, both [REDACTED] said they worked together to get [REDACTED] out of his wet clothes and start warming him up. [REDACTED] said he took the tandem kayak and paddled back out to assist [REDACTED] and Conant. [REDACTED] said that after making sure [REDACTED] was in as many dry clothes as possible, she took [REDACTED] single person kayak back out into the water to try and help her brother and Conant. [REDACTED] re-iterates the same but says she stayed her client [REDACTED] to make sure he was ok.

[REDACTED] said when she got closer to Conant, Conant was no longer holding onto his kayak but was 5-10 ft away she estimated. [REDACTED] stated that Conant talked of a throw bag that was wrapped around his leg but she did not see any evidence of it. [REDACTED] said she told Conant to hold onto the back of her kayak so she could start towing him to shore. Instead, Conant held onto the edge of her kayak but moved around her kayak by shuffling his hands along the edges. [REDACTED] said she was with Conant approximately 7-10 minutes before the next person arrived.

[REDACTED] said that it was during this time that she used her personal phone to call for help. [REDACTED] said she first tried calling [REDACTED] to call for additional help but wasn't able to connect. [REDACTED] said she then called her significant other, USPR J. Dunning, who was off duty at the time and she knew would be home. [REDACTED] stated she saw that her phone was at about 10% battery life prior to calling. [REDACTED] said she made contact with USPR Dunning and told him to send help and that they had people in the water. [REDACTED] said the call was scratchy since her service provider is AT&T and Verizon tends to work better in that area. She also said the battery life on her phone went from 10% to 0% in about a minute and a half and was then dead. [REDACTED] said after making contact with USPR Dunning, she started paddling towards shore.

The time stamp according to USPR Dunning's cell phone log is 1741 hrs. The initial phone call was 1 minute 52 seconds. The phone call records show USPR Dunning tried calling [REDACTED] back 3 times at 1743, 1744 and 1744 hrs then phoned Yellowstone Park Dispatch at 1745 hrs to relay the information. According to USPR Dunning, [REDACTED] asked if National Park Service could come help and there were 2 people in the water. USPR Dunning said the phone call became very scratchy early in the conversation and remembered hearing that [REDACTED] was near the geyser basin. USPR Dunning stated that Yellowstone Park Dispatch requested additional information and he tried to call [REDACTED] back but [REDACTED] phone went straight to voicemail. Phone records show USPR Dunning tried re-contacting [REDACTED] multiple times thereafter but was not able to make contact with her until he arrived on scene with me.

According to both [REDACTED] when [REDACTED] arrived back with [REDACTED] Conant was still responsive but sluggish. They both state that together they tried to lift Conant out of the water into the empty seat of his tandem kayak but were unsuccessful. By the time [REDACTED] arrived on scene, Conant was completely unresponsive according to both [REDACTED]. With all three, [REDACTED] they were able to lift Conant out of the water into [REDACTED] kayak. [REDACTED] said that [REDACTED] was able to hold Conant against his chest keeping him out of the water. [REDACTED] sta [REDACTED] e and [REDACTED] broke their kayak paddles in half making them more like a canoe paddle and started paddling to shore. Both said they didn't make it very far with the waves and wind. They then used the paddles to wave and blew their whistles to get the attention of the park service vessel now on the water.

According to [REDACTED] mother to [REDACTED] after [REDACTED] and Conant capsized and [REDACTED] left to assist, she along with other daughter and [REDACTED] with her granddaughter started paddling towards the Grant Marina to get additional help. [REDACTED] said they were arriving at the Grant Marina when the park service vessel was leaving. She said they gave the park rangers onboard additional directions to where the group was located.

According to [REDACTED] after the kayaks containing [REDACTED] [REDACTED] headed towards Grant Marina, they paddled back to the geyser basin to within shouting distance of bystanders on the boardwalk. They both state that they were able to make contact with bystanders and to have them call 911 to get help. [REDACTED] state that they got back to the Grant Marina around 1830 hrs.

According to [REDACTED] the park service vessel located he and [REDACTED] first and quickly loaded them up. [REDACTED] he rangers there was a still another person in the water and the park service vessel headed towards that. [REDACTED] aid he was placed in a hypothermia bag on the vessel. All accounts state that once the park service vessel located [REDACTED] and Conant, all were loaded onto the park service vessel and CPR was initiated on Conant. [REDACTED] stated he assisted park rangers with CPR on the ride back to Grant Marina where Conant was transferred from the park service vessel to the dock where CPR was continued. This ends my report of what occurred on the water of Yellowstone Lake near the West Thumb Geyser Basin on June 14th, 2017.

Supplementary Incident Report

U.S. Department of the Interior , National Park Service

Printed: 09/15/2017 08:56

Incident: NP17079324 EMS (Medical Injury/Illness/Death) @06/14/2017 17:58

Author: #376 POLEY, J.

Report time: 06/22/2017 00:51

Entered by: #376 POLEY, J.

Entered time: 06/22/2017 00:51

Report:

On 06/14/2017 at approximately 1758 Hrs, the Yellowstone Communications Center called Grant Patrol asking for a phone call. I called the Com Center and was notified that 7L37, Jason Dunning a Lake Ranger had called to notify them that his girlfriend [REDACTED] (who is an OARS Kayak Guide), had called him, stating that she was on a kayak trip on Lake Yellowstone somewhere in the West Thumb Area and that they had a couple of kayaks capsize with people in the water. Cell phone reception wasn't very good and Ranger Dunning was unable to call her back for more info. I notified Rangers DeLuca and Elliott that we might have people in the water somewhere in the area of West Thumb, while the Com Center attempted to find out more information.

The Grant Visitor Center called Grant Patrol by radio to notify us that a visitor had walked in and notified them that there were some stranded kayakers near the West Thumb Geyser Basin.

Ranger Chuvarsky who was in the area because of a previous incident drove to the West Thumb Geyser Basin to see if he could see anything from the board walk area.

Ranger DeLuca took incident command while, Ranger Elliott and I responded to the West Thumb Geyser Basin Area by National Park Service Vessel Eagle, from the Grant Marina. Just outside of the Grant Marina in the area of the Grant Campground two blue tandem kayaks flagged us down by waving their arms and kayak paddles above their heads. They said they were part of an Oars Trip and that there were people in the water. I asked them where at, and they said they were in the area of the Geyser Basin and they pointed towards the closest area of steam coming from the Basin.

I observed another kayak paddling back towards the marina in the area of the Grant Campground I-Loop. The occupants didn't appear to be in distress and didn't try to flag us down.

On the shore south of the Geyser Basin (N 44 24.787, W 11 34.034), Ranger Elliott and I observed two individuals a [REDACTED] male Victim #1, who was an OARS Client, and a [REDACTED] female later identified as [REDACTED] who is an OARS Kayak Guide, flagging us down.

Victim #1 was sitting visibly shivering on shore wearing a down jacket, a shirt on his lap, and a dry bag over his feet. The rest of his clothes and his shoes were lying next to him in a pile on the shore line.

[REDACTED] was behind the male supporting him in the seated position and was rubbing his arms and back vigorously attempting to keep him warm. At this time [REDACTED] was wearing a t-shirt, long pants, and baseball cap. [REDACTED] had given her jacket and button up shirt to Victim #1 removing his wet clothes and placing his feet into a dry bag attempting to warm him up.

I asked Victim #1 if he had any medical issues or if there was anything wrong with him other than that he was wet and cold. He stated that other than being wet and cold [REDACTED] he was fine.

I asked them if there was anyone else in the water and how many others were there [REDACTED] stated that there was at least one other person in the water that had capsized and that there was a group still out on the water.

I assisted [REDACTED] and Victim #1 back to the boat, which wasn't able to come completely to shore due to how shallow the water was. After getting both individuals on board, getting them wrapped up in sleeping bags, and making sure they were ok, we headed back out on to the water to a group of blue kayaks approximately a quarter mile off shore.

Upon arrival I observed 4 kayaks grouped together with 3 individuals seated in the kayaks and one individual a white male Victim #2, who was an OARS Kayak Guide, lying across a kayak unresponsive. He was wearing a red life jacket, brown pants,

and a black shirt. His complexion was pale and purple, his lips were purple, he had a red mark on his chin, and his pupils were dilated. [REDACTED] who was on scene told Ranger Elliott and I that Victim #2 had been in the water for 20-30 minutes and was unresponsive. With the assistance of the kayakers, Ranger Elliott and I brought the individual on board the Eagle. At this time we removed the life jacket and shirt attaching the AED which advised no shock. I then called CPR in progress and requested a MedFlight. Ranger Elliott drove the Eagle back to the marina while I performed chest compressions, assisted by one of the other kayakers, while another kayaker supported his air way.

Back at the marina I assisted other Rangers with placing the individual on the dock for a larger working area to better assist with CPR. Rangers Elliott, Chuvarsky, and Derene worked on the ALS side of the incident while I supported the airway and performed rescue breathes via Bag Valve Mask. Rangers Brearley, Goins, Suarez, Niederhardt, and others performed rotations on chest compressions. Once the Flight Medics arrived I assisted with loading the individual onto a back board and gurney before transferring him to the ambulance while Ranger Chuvarsky continued to perform chest compressions.

After the ambulance cleared the scene heading to the heli-spot, I assisted Rangers Derene and Bock with taking witness statements and identifying guides and clients.

I assisted two National Park Service Maintenance Personnel, Sazima and Stoorza with placing the kayaks, life jackets, pumps, and kayak paddles into the Maintenance Stake Bed truck before securing them in the Berger Barn.

Victim #1 was transported to the Lake Clinic by ambulance.

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
SUPPLEMENTARY CASE /INCIDENT RECORD**

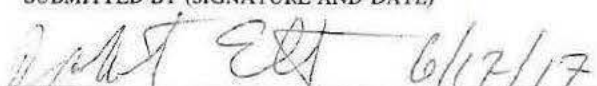
ORGANIZATION (PARK) NAME Yellowstone National Park	CASE/INCIDENT NUMBER CFS: Y061417-60
LOCATION OF INCIDENT Yellowstone Lake near West Thumb Geyser Basin	DATE OF INCIDENT 06/14/2017
NATURE OF INCIDENT Search and Rescue	
COMPLAINANT'S NAME	COMPLAINANT'S ADDRESS

At approximately 18:00 hrs., I received a phone call from Ranger Jake Poley requesting my assistance as the boat operator. He told me that he had received a call from Yellowstone Communication Center stating that there was a report of 2 capsized kayaks and 2 people in the water. The information was nonspecific as to exact location of the incident, but they thought it was near West Thumb Geyser Basin.

At 18:10 hrs Ranger Poley and I responded in a Park Service patrol boat in the direction of West Thumb Basin. At 18:15 hrs., approximately in front of the Grant Campground, a group of two tandem kayaks signaled to us they needed assistance. We stopped and spoke to the group who told us there were members of their group who needed help in the direction of the Geyser Basin. Further information from The Yellowstone Communication center then indicated that new reports suggested one of the parties in distress was "stuck" in the lagoon near the geyser basin. At 18:18 hrs., we located two individuals, later identified as a guide and a client, huddled together on the shoreline just south-west of West Thumb Geyser Basin. Ranger Poley assessed the party, determining no immediate life threats were present, and we loaded the party onto the patrol boat.

As Ranger Poley was assessing the two individuals on shore, I could see what appeared to be several blue kayaks, grouped together, floating approximately one-quarter mile off shore. With binoculars, it did appear to be 2-3 kayaks rafted together. The individuals on the kayaks made no attempt to attract our attention. They did not signal nor wave their paddles. They were not actively paddling. They appeared to be just sitting in their boats. As soon as the first party was loaded aboard, we responded to the rafted group of kayaks. At 18:32 hrs., we made contact with the group of kayaks. We immediately observed a white male, approximately in his mid-twenties, supine across the kayaks. One of the individuals in the group, possibly the guide, stated that "he has been unconscious" and that "he had been in the water submerged, for 20-30 minutes. The victim was pale, not breathing, and upon initial assessment determined to be pulseless. His pupils were fixed and dilated.

We quickly transferred the victim onto the patrol boat. After applying an AED and beginning Basic Life Support, we left the scene and proceeded directly to Grant Marina to meet the awaiting ambulance.

SUBMITTED BY (SIGNATURE AND DATE) 	APPROVED BY (SIGNATURE AND DATE)
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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
SUPPLEMENTAL CASE/INCIDENT RECORD

ORGANIZATIONAL (PARK NAME) Yellowstone National Park	CASE INCIDENT NUMBER NP17079324
LOCATION OF INCIDENT Yellowstone Lake, West Thumb, Grant	DATE OF INCIDENT 06/14/2017
NATURE OF INCIDENT Coroner's Report -	
COMPLAINANT'S NAME Timothy Hayden Ryan CONANT SS# [REDACTED] DOB: 07/26/1993 DOD: 06/14/2017	COMPLAINANT'S ADDRESS [REDACTED] Salt Lake City, UT 84102

Summary of Incident:

On 06/14/2017, Yellowstone Rangers responded with multiple rescue boats and ground units to reports of a commercial kayak group in trouble, with people in the water off West Thumb Geyser Basin. The first arriving rescue boat discovered one victim already on shore (rescued by guides/clients) and soon located a second victim still in the water approximately a quarter mile off shore. Rangers brought the second victim aboard their rescue boat and began CPR. The patient was returned to the boat ramp where resuscitation efforts continued. The patient was transported via ambulance with both NPS and flight crew continuing resuscitation efforts. Efforts to revive this patient proved unsuccessful and the patient was pronounced deceased on the helipad.

Timothy Hayden Ryan CONANT's Manner of Death was recorded as drowning as a result of cold water submersion and cardiac arrest. CONANT's death certificate, 2017-002209, was recorded by Wyoming Vital Statistics on July 17, 2017.

Incident Investigation and Response: On June 14, 2017, the OARS kayak group launched from the Grant Marina beach and paddled along the shore toward the West Thumb Geyser Basin on a half day trip. The guides and clients were configured in kayaks as follows:

OARS Guides CONANT, [REDACTED] were all in Solo kayaks.

Clients [REDACTED] were together in a tandem kayak.

Clients [REDACTED] were together in a tandem kayak.

Clients [REDACTED] were together in a tandem kayak.

Clients [REDACTED] were together in a tandem kayak.

OARS Guide [REDACTED] was not in a kayak during this incident, he remained at the company van back at the marina.

The group was paddling back to the Grant Marina when the incident occurred. The group was paddling approximately twenty-five yards off shore: CONANT and [REDACTED] were paddling up front with a group of faster paddlers. [REDACTED] was in the rear of the group paddling with the slower paddlers when [REDACTED] tipped over and fell from his kayak into the water.

[REDACTED] immediately called for assistance from the other two guides who responded to [REDACTED] location in the water. The other clients were directed to paddle toward shore. CONANT and [REDACTED] were able to upright [REDACTED] kayak and assist [REDACTED] in getting [REDACTED] back into his water filled kayak. [REDACTED] was seated in his kayak, and reports were that he was showing signs of hypothermia. The guides attempted to remove the water from [REDACTED] kayak; however, [REDACTED] decided this was not effective and transitioned their rescue efforts to a towing effort. During this time, it was reported that CONANT's kayak rolled to the inside and he fell from his kayak into the water. Everyone involved did state that CONANT immediately came back up from under the water after

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falling in, but for some reason did not attempt to get back into his kayak and instead just "bear hugged" the upside down kayak.

stated CONANT did not seem injured.

Both so they focused their attention on rescue and began to paddle in with in tow.

As were paddling toward shore they could now see paddling out toward them. They also realized at this point that CONANT was not following them. It was decided that would get into shore and would go back for CONANT.

arrived on scene with to assist back to shore. again ends up back in the water after his kayak becomes too heavy and filled with water. is towed to shore by holding onto kayak and kayak.

On shore assisted by began treating for hypothermia by stripping his clothes and warming him. takes his kayak back out onto the water to assist and CONANT

stated that as she paddled toward CONANT's last known location she could hear him blowing his rescue whistle. As arrived near CONANT, he appeared unconscious, lying motionless in the water – no longer holding his kayak. He was still wearing his PFD, and she observed the OARS company hypothermia bag in the water nearby.

used her personal cellphone to make the first call for help from ANY of the guides in the group. attempted multiple times to call back at the OARS van in the Grant Marina parking area which proved unsuccessful.

later stated when being interviewed that she was unaware of the number to reach the National Park Service and did not know that dialing 911 from a cellphone would actually reach Yellowstone National Park Rangers so therefore she dialed her friend directly who happens to be a Yellowstone Ranger. This Ranger received her broken cellphone call and immediately alerted the Yellowstone National Park Dispatch Center who in turn dispatched rescue units to the scene.

stated that when she found CONANT he was still conscious, but seemed very confused. stated that she tried to ask him questions to assess his level of alertness but he kept answering inappropriately to her questions by repeatedly referring to the "towrope" being wrapped around his legs. stated she saw nothing wrapped around CONANT's legs. also stated that she thought that CONANT sounded like he had "water in his lungs" when he was talking. repeatedly instructed CONANT to hold onto her kayak as she attempted to paddle toward shore.

stated that they attempted to load a still conscious CONANT into the empty seat of tandem kayak however CONANT was confused and lethargic at this point and was just not providing enough assistance with the process for them to be successful. stated they were able to hold onto CONANT between the boats and continued to paddle toward shore. estimates that they had been paddling for 7 to 10 minutes when arrived on scene in solo kayak to also assist in the rescue of CONANT.

With three people now on scene, attempted to get CONANT into the empty seat in tandem kayak however they were still unsuccessful and instead were only able to lift CONANT on top of by lying CONANT inside the same seat as . With their three kayaks together the group started paddling toward shore once again.

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At some point during paddling [REDACTED] recalls seeing the NPS rescue boat approaching however she could tell the rescue boat could not see her group because her group was too far off shore. She could tell the boat was going toward [REDACTED] and her group onshore instead. [REDACTED] stated that at this point CONANT was now unconscious and unresponsive. His eyes were rolled back in his head, and his chin was red. [REDACTED] stated that [REDACTED] and herself were attempting to signal the rescue boat by waving their paddles in the air and yelling.

The NPS rescue boat spotted [REDACTED] and her group offshore and started to motor toward them, after completing assessments of [REDACTED]

Upon arrival at [REDACTED] location Rangers in the rescue boat found CONANT unconscious, not breathing, and being held over the top of the group's kayaks. Rangers brought CONANT, [REDACTED] onboard the rescue boat, leaving their kayaks and equipment behind and immediately began CPR on CONANT. (See supplemental reports from responding rangers for more detail)

The NPS rescue boat responded back to the Grant Village Boat Dock where it was met by additional waiting rescue and medical personnel. Air 3 had arrived on scene at Grant Village, and were transported down to the dock where the NPS rescue boat and responders were performing CPR on CONANT. At 19:20 hours, Air 3 Crew arrived on scene with the patient and assumed patient care. After receiving assessment both Air 3 and NPS EMS personnel continued resuscitation efforts, moved the patient into the ambulance and transported CONANT to the helipad. Jamie B. Graham consulted with medical control, Rosenberg at 19:58 hours. After consultation it was determined patient was non responsive to life and resuscitation efforts, all EMS crew members agreed and resuscitation efforts ceased. Time of death was: 1959 hours.

Identification of the Decedent: Deputy Coroner Matthew Chuvarsky and I viewed the body in the Ambulance Bay at the Grant Ranger Station. The resuscitation and rescue efforts were witnessed by multiple people, both raft guides and guests, who were able to positively identify the individual as Timothy CONANT.

The facial and other physical characteristics of the individual matched the photo identification of the driver's license belonging to Timothy CONANT.

Notification of Family: The evening of June 14, into the morning of June 15, 2017; Deputy Coroner Matthew Chuvarsky and I made several unsuccessful attempts to contact CONANT's mother, [REDACTED] In addition, we searched for additional contact information for the family. The following morning, June 16, 2017, Deputy Coroner Matthew Chuvarsky received a return phone call from [REDACTED] It was at this point that definitive notification was made with the mother. I received notification from Deputy Coroner Chuvarsky, and spoke with her later that afternoon.

Examination of Body: I examined and photographed CONANT's body at the Grant Ranger Station, beginning at approximately 23:27 hours on June 14, 2017. CONANT was covered in a blanket and strapped to a longboard, located in the Grant Ambulance Bay. Next to his body was a blue hat and sandals.

When I removed the blanket, CONANT was not wearing any clothing and was in a supine position. He still had the medical equipment from resuscitation efforts, and these were documented with photographs. I photographed the body and took notes of any possible injuries and medical treatment. Eyes were partially open, fixed and dilated. AED pads were left in place on the chest, and IO (interosseous) line remained in place on the left leg at the proximal tibia (approximately 2 finger breadths below the patella, and 1-2 cm medial to the tibial tuberosity. Additional, IO line remained in place at the right proximal humerus, and blood pressure cuff remained on his right arm. Also there was an 18 gauge IV initiated in the left Antecubital. There were heat packs placed next to his

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body, on the longboard. . CONANT had a C-collar in place, and the Endotrachial tube and NG tube that had been placed for an airway; there was a red mark located on his chin.

CONANT had multiple small, red bruises on both legs from his ankles up to his thighs. The skin on his upper chest, shoulders and neck were mottled. Lividity on his back.

Toxicology: Femoral blood, urine and vitreous fluid was taken and sent to the AXIS toxicology labs. The results indicated the following:

Blood – Positive for cardiovascular agents, Amiodarone (resuscitation efforts)

Urine – Positive for opiates; morphine.

Vitreous fluid – was inconclusive.

Confirmed with AXIS laboratories that the positive result in urine and not blood samples is not unusual, and inconclusive.

Disposition of Body: Timothy CONANT's body was released to Valley Mortuary on June 15, 2017; and transported to Jackson, Wyoming.

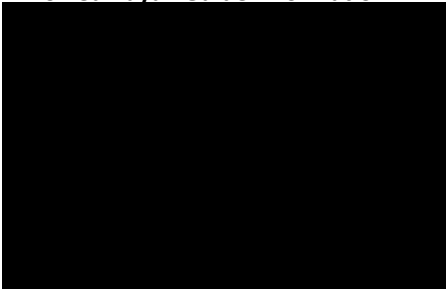
Witness Statements: Multiple witness statements from OARS guides and members of the group.

Cause and Manner of Death: Timothy CONANT's Manner of Death was recorded as Drowning; contributing factors hypothermia. CONANT's death certificate, 2017-002209, was recorded by Wyoming Vital Statistics on July 17, 2017.

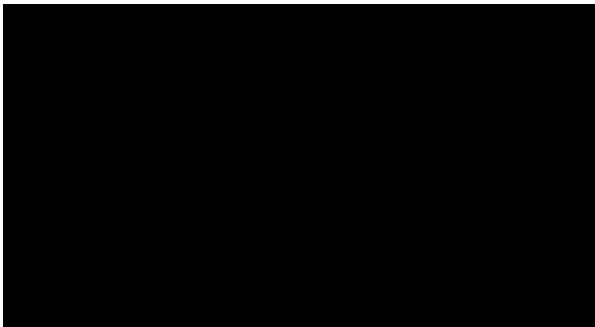
CONANT was a healthy, twenty three year old male, with no known medical conditions.

Disposition of Property: The decedent's personal property was collected, photographed, documented and transferred with the body to Valley Mortuary.

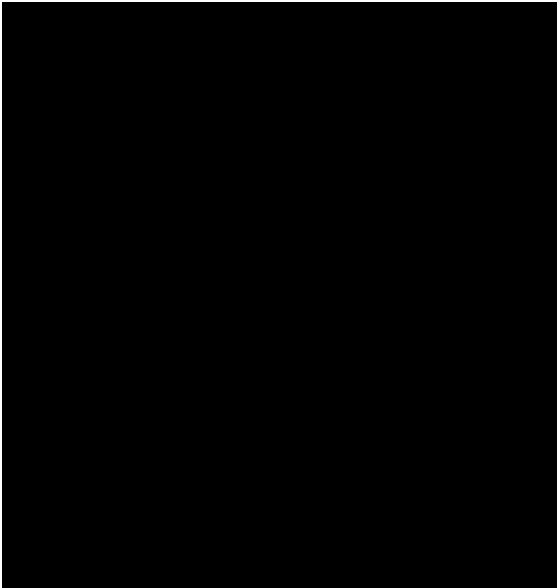
Involved Kayak Guide Information:



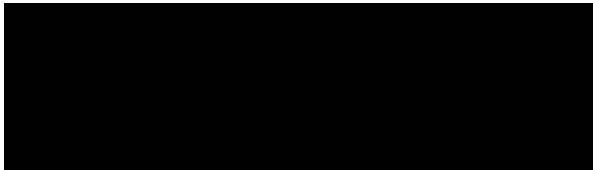
Involved Client Information:



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Contacts:



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Matthew Chuvarsky – Deputy Coroner

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Ginger Townsend – Family Liaison Officer Assigned

JJACOBSON 18:11:16
 BRIDGE BAY L UNITS ARE MONITORING IN CASE

JJACOBSON 18:11:50
 ON FOOT AT WEST THUMB GEYSER BASIN

JJACOBSON 18:12:49
 11 BLUE CONTACTS, 9 KAYAKS, 2 GUIDES

JJACOBSON 18:13:40
 THE MAN WITH THE OARS VAN IN THE PARKING LOT KNOWS NOTHING OF THE
 CALL

JJACOBSON 18:14:08
 TWO WERE IN THE WATER BY THE THERMAL AREA

JJACOBSON 18:15:56
 7L12 - BLUE KAYAK IS IN THE BAY - 500 FT OFF SHORE - ARE WAVING
 THEIR

OARS AS THOUGH THEY NEED HELP

JJACOBSON 18:17:55
 IC IS 7S12

JJACOBSON 18:18:58
 7S14 HAS MADE CONTACT WITH KAYAK AND PEOPLE

JJACOBSON 18:19:17
 IC IS GOING BY GRANT COMMAND

JJACOBSON 18:28:15
 ONE BLS PATIENT

JJACOBSON 18:28:40
 HE WAS IN THE WATER FOR APPROXIMATELY 30 MINUTES

JJACOBSON 18:29:11
 7S32 IS ASKED TO GO GET BLANKETS, HOT PACKS, FROM THE CACHE

ARIELMILLS 18:29:20
 WAS A 911 CALL-THE RP WAS TOLD TO CALL FROM THE TOUR COMPANY-DOES
 NOT

SEE THE PPL IN THE WATER--NO NEW INFORMATION

JJACOBSON 18:29:57
 STANDING BY FOR REPORT FROM ONSCENE RANGER THAT IS MAKING CONTACT
 WITH

KAYAKERS

JJACOBSON 18:32:26
 ONE MAN UNCONSCIOUS AND UNRESPONSIVE

JJACOBSON 18:32:33
 IC REQUESTS A LIFE FLIGHT

JJACOBSON 18:32:52
 S36 AND S37 MUST EXPEDITE RESPONSE

JJACOBSON 18:33:48
 7L10 REAFFIRMING WHO IS ON WAY, AND ASKING ABOUT SUPPLIES

JJACOBSON 18:34:12
 WARWOOD IS LEAVING BRIDGE BAY MARINA ON THE WARWOOD WITH A PARTY
 OF

FOUR

JJACOBSON 18:34:20
 CPR IN PROGRESS

JJACOBSON 18:34:56
 EAGLE IS COMING IN HOT - CPR IN PROGRESS -

JJACOBSON 18:35:29
 7S36 HAS ASKED THAT THE AED BE READY

M Downing 18:36:55

CALL TYPE CHANGED FROM UNCODED TO SAR AT 18:36

LDOOLEY 18:37:11
AIR3 LAUNCHED

JJACOBSON 18:40:51
PAGE GRANT FIRE AND HAVE F33

JJACOBSON 18:41:51
CORRECTION G33

JJACOBSON 18:42:31
HAVE G33 GO TO HELIPAD AND SET UP THE LANDING ZONE

JJACOBSON 18:42:40
CONFIRMED THE HELIPAD AND NOT THE MARINA

LDOOLEY 18:44:12
7L15 WARWOOD 10/8 4 ON TO WEST THUMB

LDOOLEY 18:45:01
ALS IS WORKING CODE STILL REQ LIFEFLIGHT

LDOOLEY 18:49:59
AIRMETH DIS 20 MIN ETA

LDOOLEY 18:50:15
G33 ADVISED IS GROUND CONTACT

LDOOLEY 18:52:14
L37 AND L11 ON SCENE

LDOOLEY 18:54:27
AIR3 INBOUND

LDOOLEY 18:58:48
LAKE 1 ON SCENE

LDOOLEY 19:01:19
3L50 W/2 ON SILVERTIP ENRT

LDOOLEY 19:06:54
L10 - WARWOOD ON SCENE

LDOOLEY 19:10:02
AIR3 ON GROUND

LDOOLEY 19:11:53
L10 OUT WITH 4 EMPTY KAYAKS BLUE AND 1 PURPLE

LDOOLEY 19:15:07
ADV 1 PER BOAT 11 BOATS TOTAL JODY DOUBLE CHECKING WITH COMPANY

LDOOLEY 19:19:04
44 25.184 X 110 32.947 IS CURRENT LOC FOR WARWOOD, BOATS WERE
WITHIN
1/4 TO 1/2 MILE RADIUS.

LDOOLEY 19:19:56
LAKE 1 ENRT TO LAKE CLINIC WITH 1, 4L20, 4L64 AND ADDITIONAL

LDOOLEY 19:21:49
7L10 LEAVING BOATS STARTING ZIG ZAG WEST OF BOATS WORKING TOWARDS
GEYSER BASIN, CHECK IN IF IC WANTS BOATS/PERSONNEL

JJACOBSON 19:25:07
CALLED OARS AND THERE IS NO ANSWER - LOOKING FOR TOTAL OF
CUSTOMERS

LDOOLEY 19:25:13
COMMAND ALL CLIENTS AND GUIDES ARE ACCOUNTED FOR. MISSING BOATS,
1
DOUBLE KAYAK AND 4 SINGLE. COMPANY IS SAYING ALL ACCOUNTED FOR.

LDOOLEY 19:25:25
L10 ADVISED, WILL START PICKING GEAR

LDOOLEY 19:26:00

COMMAND - FLIGHT CREW AT MARINA, ALS AND FLIGHT CREW WORKING PT,
 MOVING
 PT TO AIR3
 ARIELMILLS 19:28:40
 GRT 1 EN RT TO HELISPOT WITH 1
 ARIELMILLS 19:31:14
 GRT1 ARRIVING AT THE HELISPOT
 ARIELMILLS 19:32:06
 7S10 I/S EN RT TO GRANT
 LDOOLEY 19:45:28
 L10 4 KAYAKS, 1 TANDEM AND HEADED TO BOAT LAUNCH
 ARIELMILLS 19:45:46
 LAST OF [REDACTED] IS THE ONE OF THE GUIDES//7S14 WILL BE OUT WITH THE
 GUIDES AT GRANT MARINA DOCK
 LDOOLEY 19:48:10
 LAKE1 AT LAKE CLINIC
 SLMOREY 19:52:56
 7S31 @ HELI SPOT WITH FLIGHT CREW AND 7S35, 7S36, 7L12
 LDOOLEY 19:59:32
 CALLED AT 1946 PER CHUVARSKY TO COMMAND, REQ DEP CORONER
 LDOOLEY 20:06:08
 LAKE1 CLEAR OF CLINIC AVAIL IN DISTRICT
 ARIELMILLS 20:11:37
 5H16 IS AVIAL TO RESPOND AS SECOND DEPUTY
 LDOOLEY 20:19:16
 AIR3 OFF GV TO WEST
 LDOOLEY 20:21:27
 L10 - WARWOOD CLEAR OF GV ENRT BB
 LDOOLEY 20:30:05
 3L50 CLEAR ENRT BACK TO BB
 LDOOLEY 20:32:25
 AIR3 CLEAR OF PARK
 MDOWNING 20:39:38
 KAELYN NOTIFIED
 ARIELMILLS 20:39:47
 6011 BEEN RELEASED FROM THE INCIDENT
 ARIELMILLS 20:42:31
 CODE 4
 ARIELMILLS 20:47:36
 COD E4
 LDOOLEY 20:55:35
 3L50 SILVERTIP BACK AT BB
 LDOOLEY 21:00:01
 7L15, WARWOOD BACK IN BB
 ARIELMILLS 21:02:27
 7S36 AND 7S37 CLR OF GRANT MARNIA
 MDOWNING 21:11:41
 5H16 APPROACHING TOWER JCT
 ARIELMILLS 21:25:03
 7S14-ALL SAR ITEMS ARE SECURED IN THE BARN
 ARIELMILLS 21:26:47
 GRT CMMD-TERM CMMD ALL UNITS
 ARIELMILLS 21:26:53
 ALL UNITS CLR

ARIELMILLS 21:26:58
 7S12 WILL BE PRIMARY
 MDOWNING 21:44:57
 5H16 CANYON JCT
 ARIELMILLS 22:53:52
 5H16 IS ARRIVING AT GRANT VILLAGE
 ARIELMILLS 23:16:18
 7S14- 3L50 IS ON SCENE
 ARIELMILLS 23:16:43
 DISREGARD LAST
 ARIELMILLS 23:18:15
 GUIDES JUST LEFT THE AREA
 ARIELMILLS 23:20:36
 THE KAYAKS WERE CONFISCATED AND TAKEN TO THE BARN

UNIT

```

-----
5H16      5H16      ENROUTE      20:50:03
           ENROUTE      20:50:05
           ONSCENE      22:53:57
           AVAILABLE    02:16:17
6011      6011      ENROUTE      18:32:34
           AVAILABLE    20:59:22
7L12      7L12      ENROUTE      18:11:22
           AVAILABLE    02:16:17
7S10      7S10      ENROUTE      19:32:23
           ENROUTE      19:32:28
           AVAILABLE    22:35:34
7S14      7S14      ENROUTE      18:03:09
           ENROUTE      18:03:11
           AVAILABLE    22:35:19
7S31      7S31      ENROUTE      18:18:11
           AVAILABLE    22:22:53
7S32      7S32      ENROUTE      18:20:12
           AVAILABLE    22:35:14
7S35      7S35      ENROUTE      18:09:06
           AVAILABLE    22:35:09
GRT1      ENROUTE      18:18:36
           AVAILABLE    00:02:23
=====
=====
  
```

SUBJECTS NAME: Phone log	Yellowstone National Park Evidence Photos	CASE NUMBER: NP17079324
PHOTOS TAKEN BY: USPR J. Dunning		DATE OF PHOTO: June 15, 2017

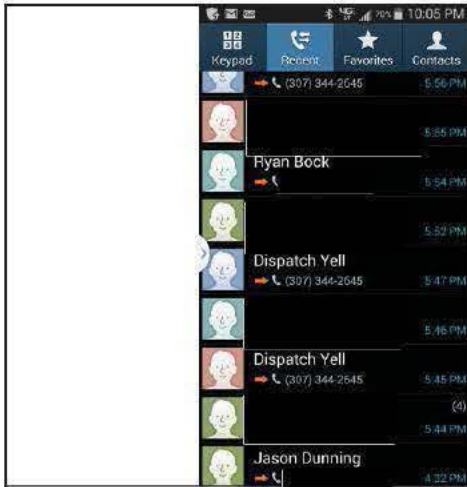


PHOTO #1

DESCRIPTION: Personal phone log of U.S. Park Ranger J. Dunning showing calls from [REDACTED] during incident on Yellowstone Lake.

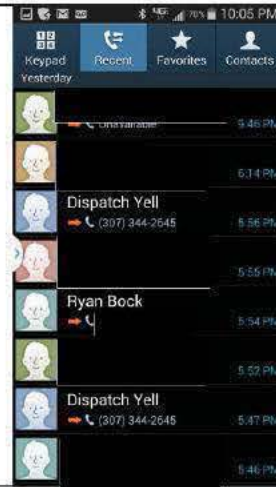


PHOTO #2

DESCRIPTION: Personal phone log of U.S. Park Ranger J. Dunning showing calls from [REDACTED] during incident on Yellowstone Lake.



PHOTO #3

DESCRIPTION: Personal phone log of U.S. Park Ranger J. Dunning showing calls from [REDACTED] during incident on Yellowstone Lake. This photo shows expanded the 4 calls to [REDACTED] made at 5:44PM.

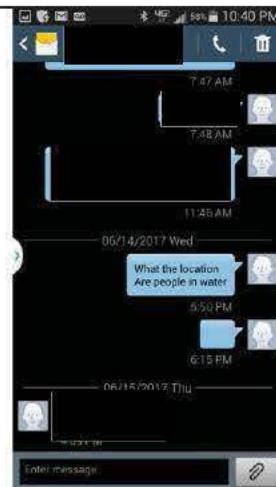


PHOTO #4

DESCRIPTION: Personal cell phone text log of U.S. Park Ranger J. Dunning showing additional attempt to contact [REDACTED] regarding an incident on Yellowstone Lake.

SUBMITTED BY (SIGNATURE AND DATE)
Ryan Bock s/s: *Ryan Bock* 7/10/17

APPROVED BY (SIGNATURE AND DATE)

UT
USA

Utah DRIVER LICENSE



[REDACTED]

08/10/2015

1 CONANT
2 TIMOTHY HAYDEN RYAN

DOB 07/26/1993

SALT LAKE CITY, UT 84102

5 BE I H 4b Exp 07/26/2020

9 Class D 9a End M

12 Restrictions A

DONOR Y 14 Hgt 5'09" 18 Eyes BLU

15 Sex M 17 Wgt 145 19 Hair BLN

Timothy Ryan

SUBJECTS NAME: CONANT Fatality	Yellowstone National Park Case Photo Log	CASE NUMBER: 17079324
PHOTOS TAKEN BY: Ranger DeLuca		DATE OF PHOTO: 6/15/2017



PHOTO # 1

DESCRIPTION: Photo shows solo kayak #6 involved in incident possibly used by OARS guide or client. Exact user unknown.



PHOTO # 2

DESCRIPTION: Photo shows solo kayak #7 involved in incident possibly used by OARS guide or client. Exact user unknown. Also found in this kayak was a paddle float and hand pump which would lead investigators to believe a OARS guide was using this kayak.



PHOTO # 3

DESCRIPTION: Photo shows solo kayak #11 involved in incident possibly used by OARS guide or client. Exact user unknown.



PHOTO # 4

DESCRIPTION: Photo shows tandem kayak #1 involved in incident which was being used by clients. Exact users unknown. This kayak was found with a hand pump attached.



PHOTO # 5

DESCRIPTION: Photo shows tandem kayak #2 involved in incident which was being used by clients. Exact users unknown.



PHOTO # 6

DESCRIPTION: Photo shows tandem kayak #8 involved in incident which was being used by clients. Exact users unknown. Also found inside kayak were two bottles of water and a second hand pump.

SUBMITTED BY (SIGNATURE AND DATE)

USPR Frank DeLuca # 2489

APPROVED BY (SIGNATURE AND DATE)

SUBJECTS NAME: CONANT Fatality	Yellowstone National Park Case Photo Log	CASE NUMBER: 17079324
PHOTOS TAKEN BY: Ranger DeLuca		DATE OF PHOTO: 6/15/2017



PHOTO # 1

DESCRIPTION: Photo shows tandem kayak #14 involved in incident which was being used by clients. Exact users unknown. Photo also shows hand pump found attached to kayak.



PHOTO # 2

DESCRIPTION: Photo shows six of the seven paddles found onscene after the incident. No other paddles were recovered. Based on the people involved there should have been at least twelve paddles recovered.



PHOTO # 3

DESCRIPTION: Photo shows seven of the person flotation devices being used that day. It is unknown which guides or clients were wear which PFD's at the time of the incident.



PHOTO # 4

DESCRIPTION: Photo shows four of the person flotation devices being used that day. It is unknown which guides or clients were wear which PFD's at the time of the incident. Photo also shows an additional paddle.



PHOTO # 5

DESCRIPTION: Photo shows a random hand pump found on the scene, unknown what kayak it came from and also one of two throw bags that were being used as "towropes" at the time of the incident.



PHOTO # 6

DESCRIPTION: Photo shows OARS company first aid kit found onscene, unknown what kayak it came from and also one of two throw bags that were being used as "towropes" at the time of the incident.

SUBMITTED BY (SIGNATURE AND DATE) <i>USPR Frank DeLuca # 2489</i>	APPROVED BY (SIGNATURE AND DATE)
--	----------------------------------

SUBJECTS NAME: CONANT Fatality	Yellowstone National Park Case Photo Log	CASE NUMBER: 17079324
PHOTOS TAKEN BY: Ranger DeLuca		DATE OF PHOTO: 6/22/2017



PHOTO # 1

DESCRIPTION: Photo is of kayak believed to be used by CONANT at the time of his death. Recovered multiple days later floating on Lake.



PHOTO # 2

DESCRIPTION: Photo is of kayak believed to be used by CONANT at the time of his death. Recovered multiple days later floating on Lake.



PHOTO # 3

DESCRIPTION: Photo is of kayak believed to be used by CONANT at the time of his death. Recovered multiple days later floating on Lake.



PHOTO # 4

DESCRIPTION: Photo is of kayak believed to be used by CONANT at the time of his death. Recovered multiple days later floating on Lake.



PHOTO # 5

DESCRIPTION: Photo is of kayak believed to be used by CONANT at the time of his death. Recovered multiple days later floating on Lake.

PHOTO # 6

DESCRIPTION:

SUBMITTED BY (SIGNATURE AND DATE)

USPR Frank DeLuca # 2489

APPROVED BY (SIGNATURE AND DATE)

SUBJECTS NAME: CONANT Fatality	Yellowstone National Park Case Photo Log	CASE NUMBER: 17079324
PHOTOS TAKEN BY: Ranger DeLuca		DATE OF PHOTO: 6/15/2017



PHOTO # 1

DESCRIPTION: Photo is of front of CONANT's personal flotation device. Photo also shows wear rescuers cut right shoulder strap of PFD to remove device from CONANT during rescue.



PHOTO # 2

DESCRIPTION: Photo is of front of CONANT's personal flotation device. Photo also shows front gear pocket and items inside.



PHOTO # 3

DESCRIPTION: Photo is of front of CONANT's personal flotation device. Photo also shows front gear pocket and items inside. Photo also shows rescue signal whistle CONANT MAY have been using to signal rescuers.



PHOTO # 4

DESCRIPTION: Photo is of rear CONANT's personal flotation device.



PHOTO # 5

DESCRIPTION: Photo is of inside of CONANT's personal flotation device.



PHOTO # 6

DESCRIPTION: Photo is of inside of CONANT's personal flotation device.

SUBMITTED BY (SIGNATURE AND DATE)

USPR Frank DeLuca # 2489

APPROVED BY (SIGNATURE AND DATE)

SUBJECTS NAME: Timothy Conant	Yellowstone National Park Evidence Photos	CASE NUMBER: NP17079324
PHOTOS TAKEN BY: [REDACTED]		DATE OF PHOTO: 6/14/17



PHOTO #1

DESCRIPTION: Photo of Timothy Conant (center), paddling while on the trip to the West Thumb Geyser Basin. Photo taken by [REDACTED] client on the trip



PHOTO #2

DESCRIPTION: Photo of Timothy Conant (left) kayaking on Yellowstone Lake prior to incident. Note: large white dry bag labeled "25" where hypothermia bag was said to be stored.

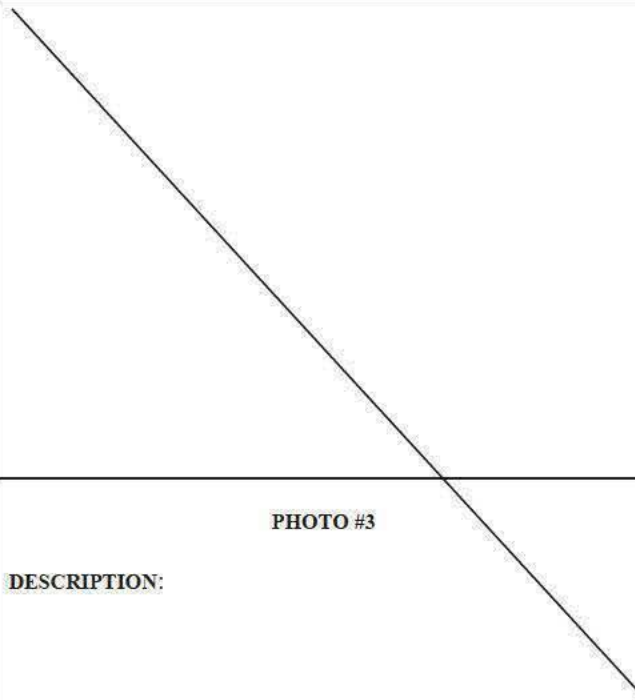


PHOTO #3

DESCRIPTION:

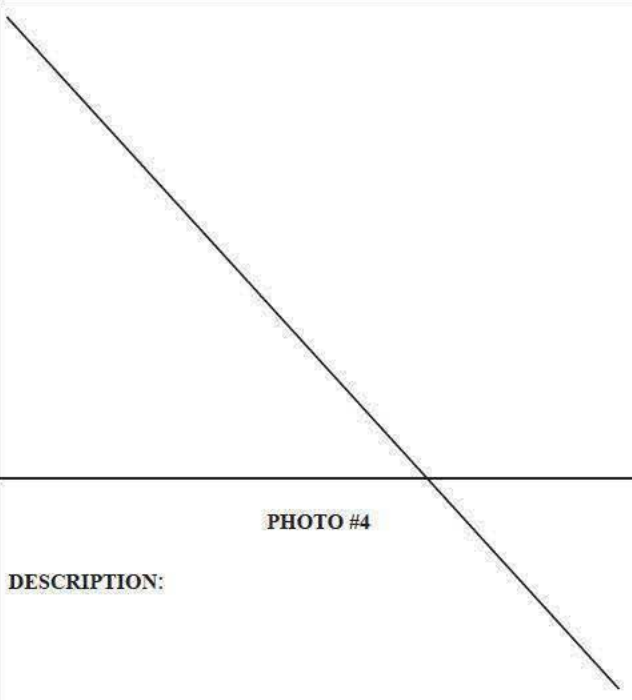
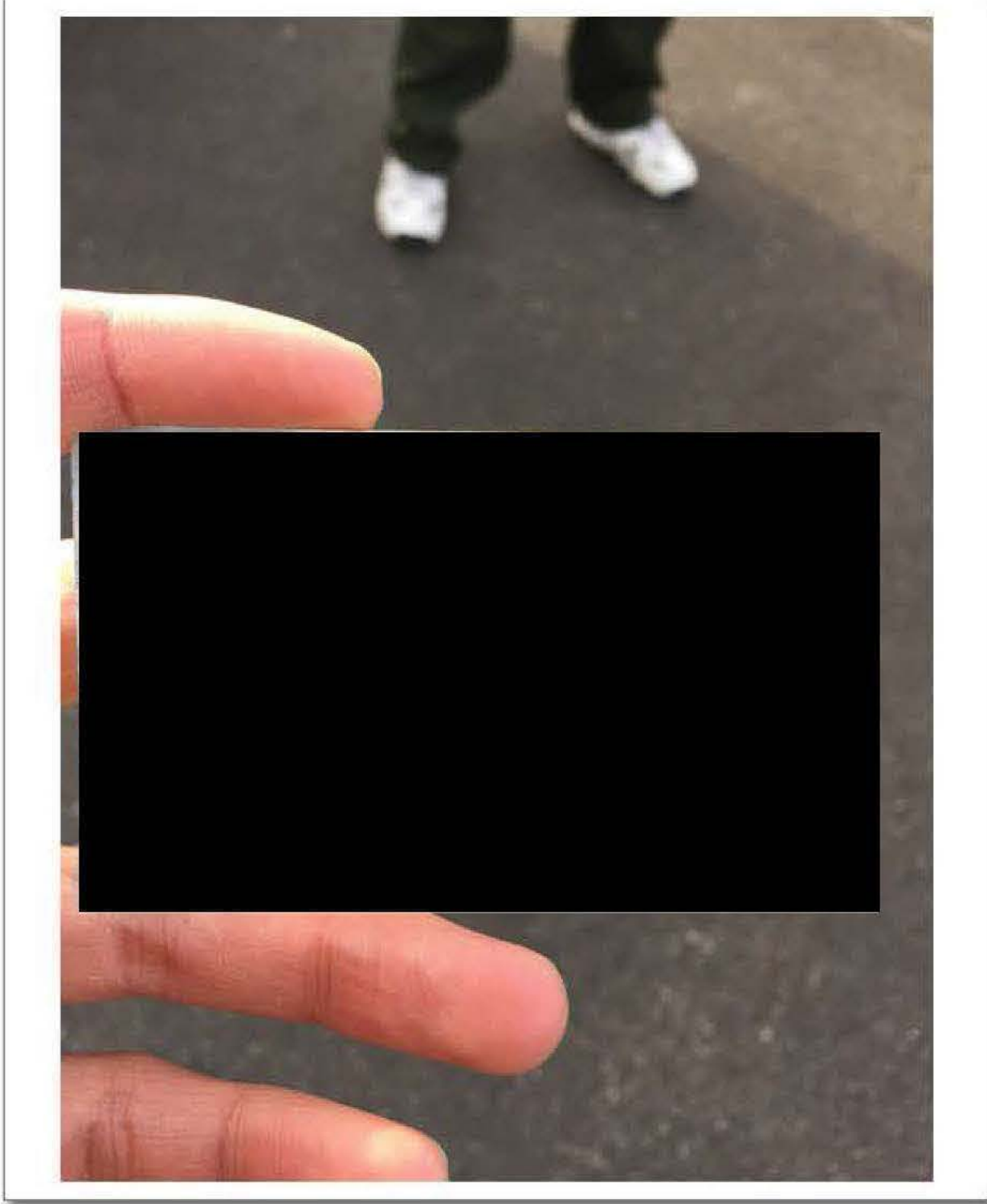


PHOTO #4

DESCRIPTION:

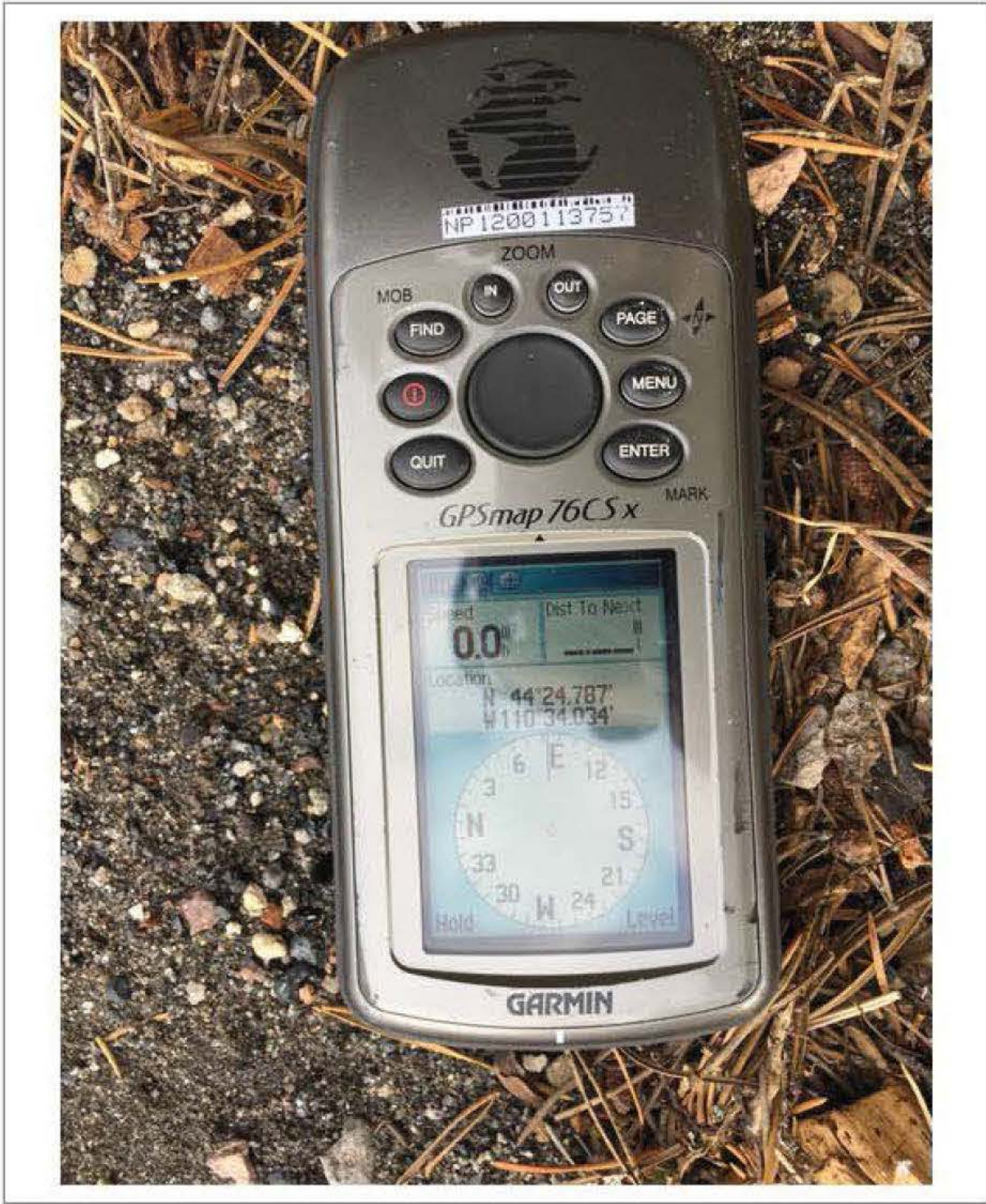
SUBMITTED BY (SIGNATURE AND DATE) Ryan Bock s/s: <i>Ryan Bock</i> 7/10/17	APPROVED BY (SIGNATURE AND DATE)
--	----------------------------------



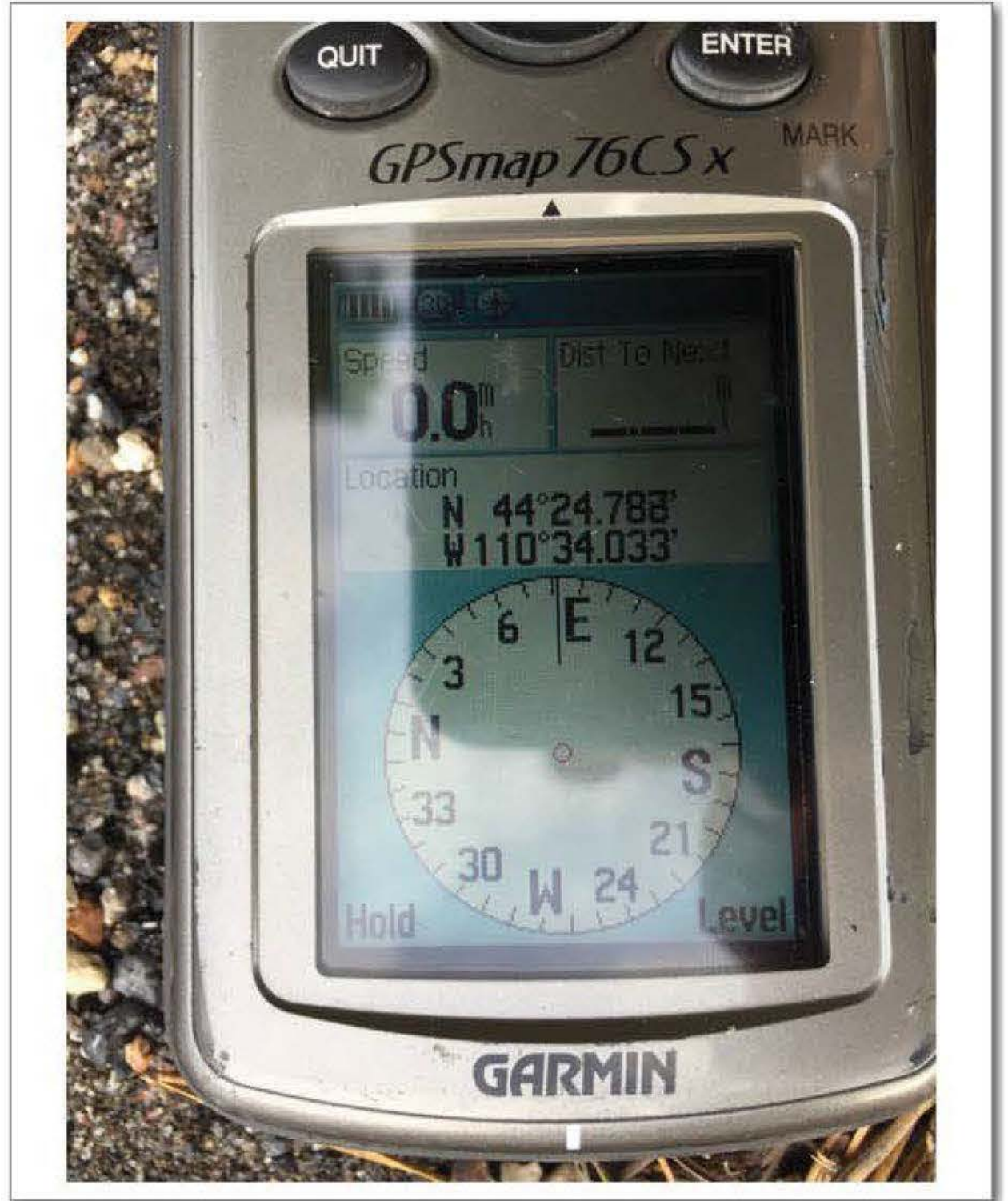
IMG_0232



IMG_0233



IMG_0248



IMG_0249

NP1200113757

ZOOM

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⏻

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GPSmap 76CS x



GARMIN

Statement regarding the events of 14 Jun 17, approximately 1530 – 1600 on Lake Yellowstone. The three O.A.R.S guides were Tim (lead), [REDACTED] This document created 15 Jun 17.

My family and I began a Kayak tour from the Grant Village boat ramp about 1430. Everything was fine on the outbound leg of the 4 to 5-mile event to the West Thumb Geyser Basin. Sometime after 1646 (local—based on the date-time stamp on the last photo my wife took of me in the kayak) on the return leg of the trip (bank to the right), with wind from the shore, my single person kayak capsized to the left.

Leading up to that point, I had not encountered significant difficulty maneuvering the kayak, the wind blowing from the shore kept pushing me farther out. I had noticed what I believed to excess water in the kayak, but somewhat assumed it was largely from paddling—but suspected was more than that. I used right rudder to turn toward the shore and the group. Turning, with the accumulation of water shifting more to the left side of the kayak (I assume), and a gust of wind from the shore (right) sufficiently changed my center of gravity for the left side of the kayak to dip into the water and capsize.

After a few minutes in the water, the female guides arrived first, followed by Tim as he was at the front of the group and I was at the end. All three righted the kayak, helped me back into it and began pumping. The pumping was not evacuating sufficient water and one of the guides said the water was coming in behind me. Their crosstalk focused on the need to get me to shore soonest. About this time, Tim's kayak dipped to the right (he was on my left, the females to my right) and he capsized. I believe he wound up sitting on the upturned kayak. The females [REDACTED] left, [REDACTED] right) began towing me in the submerged kayak (tied off to [REDACTED] kayak – not sure how I may have been tied to [REDACTED] kayak). Shortly—a few minutes perhaps, [REDACTED] said we needed to jettison my kayak (too much drag) and they would tow me to shore with both paddling and me I the middle holding on to both of their kayaks.

During our trip to shore, [REDACTED] hailed Tim at least two times, maybe more, about the hypothermia bag and getting it to us. I don't recall him responding (could not see him), but had the impression he might not be paddling to shore on behind us. I think, but cannot remember fully, that he may have been sitting on his capsized kayak.

They kept me talking and [REDACTED] asked me to kick. I had been and told her so. No estimate of how long it took them to get to shore—they were both paddling very aggressively against a headwind. Reaching within feet of the shore, I stood up, walked on and sat down in the trees within 5 or so feet of the water. As soon as [REDACTED] was out of her kayak, she helped me up and led me to a sunny spot about 8 – 10 feet away in the direction of the West Thumb Geyser Basin. She directed [REDACTED] to return to Tim and assist. A young male and female (brother and sister) team beached about that time and the sister (NFI—see ranger reports from the dock) assisted [REDACTED] in getting me out of my wet clothes, into [REDACTED] jacket and shirt (the shirt wrapped around my hips). The brother left about the time we started—I learned later both were certified lifeguards—to head to Tim's kayak ... the sister wanted to go to Tim as well and took [REDACTED] kayak.

Back to my location on shore .. [REDACTED] worked hard to warm me, despite being somewhat wet herself I believe from the waist down, possibly just knees down, and having given me her flannel shirt (extra) and jacket. She kept rubbing me and wrapped her arms around me using her body heat to attempt to warm my core temp as much as possible. She kept me talking and after a bit I asked about a Park Service boat ... realizing someone from our party would have to contact them. Not sure of the time the Park Service

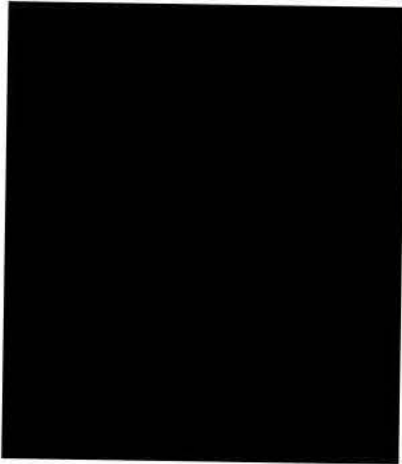
[REDACTED] Statement

CASE# 17079324
1 of 2

boat arrived, one of the rangers (not the helmsman—ranger 1) and [REDACTED] helped me to the boat. Shortly after I arrived at the boat the second ranger (helmsman—ranger 2) finished his radio updates based on [REDACTED] information about Tim having capsized and still off shore with his kayak. Both rangers and [REDACTED] worked together to load me up and immediately headed out to Tim's location. I was placed in a hypothermia bag as the boat raced out. It might have taken a minute to reach the group with Tim [REDACTED] with the brother and sister, to the best of my knowledge) and the rangers transferred him to the boat and headed to shore. I think ranger 1 started chest compressions on Tim—not completely sure. Once at the dock, a group of Park Service LE, etc. moved Tim to the dock, attached the appropriate leads for heart beat and defib machine. Your people have the info on Tim and their activities on the dock.

I remained in the boat, in the bag and as out of the way as best I could. After maybe 5 – 10 minutes an ambulance arrived and I was helped out of the boat and into it. The EMT and on LE ranger were with me on the ride to the clinic—they have their notes on what they did and I have only my side.

Arrived at the clinic ... they took care of me and released me. See their notes/reports.



Case# 17079324
- 2 of 2



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Yellowstone National Park
PO Box 168
Yellowstone National Park, WY 82190

Statement Form:

We finished our guide tour and were heading back to the boat ramp. I was only about 5-10 ft away from [redacted] husband when I turned around routinely to check on guests and his kayak was flipped and he was in the water. I called Tim over to help me. We got him back in the kayak and began pumping out the water. The guest [redacted] husband [redacted] (not sure his name) grabbed Tim's kayak and water spilled in. A few seconds later Tim's kayak flipped over and he was in the water too. He managed to get himself in, and [redacted] and I were with guest. I determined we weren't going to be able to pump out the water from the kayak enough to get it to float, so I made the decision to get to shore. I began paddling with guest tied to my kayak and [redacted] turned around to help Tim. Myself and 2 other guests (young boy and girl/siblings) helped me kayak [redacted] husband to shore. When we made it the [redacted] sister and I de-clothed [redacted] husband. I gave him my jacket after all wet clothes off. Sister went to check on Tim and [redacted] I stayed with guest. Placed him in sun. Put feet and legs in dry bag. Wrapped my fleece button-up around his waste, then wrapped my arms around him and vigorously rubbed his body continuously with my arms to create friction and warmth until help arrived. I couldn't see anyone in the water as we were blocked by trees. I assumed [redacted] and Tim could take care of it, as I needed to stay with [redacted] husband to make sure he was ok. When the boat picked up Tim, he was

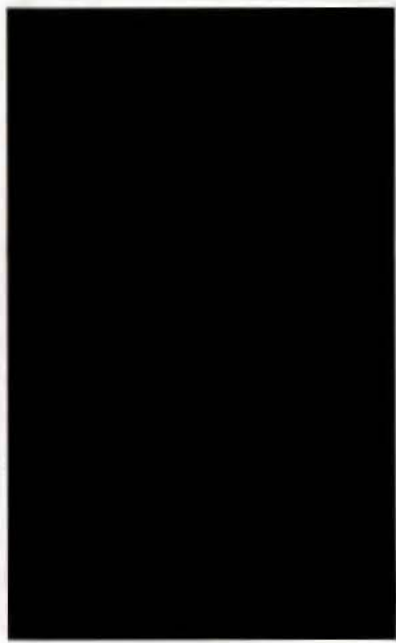
I have read this statement and have been given the opportunity to make correction thereon. I attest that this statement is true and correct to the best of my knowledge, and that I gave this statement freely and voluntarily, without coercion or ^{unconscious} reward.

Signed: [redacted]

Date: 06-14-17

Time: 7:50

Case# 17079304
1091





National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Yellowstone National Park
PO Box 168
Yellowstone National Park, WY 82190

Statement Form:

In your own words describe the WHO, WHAT, WHEN, WHERE, & HOW.

We started our afternoon tour at 2:30pm. There were 3 guides and 9 clients. We went through all the procedures before launching, safety talks and precautions. On our way out to West Thumb Geyser Basin, one of the clients tipped over and his boat capsized. All three guides worked to pump water out of his boat, but the water continued to fill the boat and upon working to get the client back in the boat, Tim's boat flipped as well. Myself and another guide worked to get the client on [redacted] boat to get him to shore. I ~~was~~ ^{then went} to get Tim and he held onto my boat as I paddled him in. Two others paddled over to help him get into the boat and we all started rowing in, He was very cold and incoherent at the time. We saw the ~~NPS~~ National Park Service boat and motioned for help, we continued to paddle to shore and Tim lost consciousness. We were able to signal for the boat and pulled him into the ^{NPS} boat in order to immediately start CPR.

-Weather conditions at the time of the accident were extremely challenging. When Tim fell in, he was pulled ~~out~~ away from shoreline very quickly. ~~On~~ In addition,
(Use Reverse Side if Needed)

I have read this statement and have been given the opportunity to make correction thereon. I attest that this statement is true and correct, to the best of my knowledge, and that I gave this statement freely and voluntarily, without coercion or reward.

Signed: [redacted] Date: 6/14/17 Time: 7:48

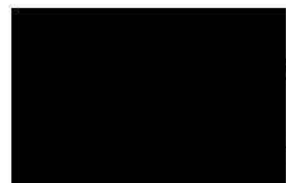
SHADED AREA TO BE COMPLETED BY OFFICER

Name:	[redacted]	Permanent Address:	[redacted]
Date of Birth / Age:	[redacted]	OLN Number/State:	[redacted]
SSN:	[redacted]	Number of Pages:	Page _____ of _____ Pages
Local address:	[redacted]	If residence in park, employer:	[redacted]

Statement given to (Ranger):	Date/Time:	Case Number:
[redacted]	6/14/17	17079324

[redacted] Statement

The water was extremely cold and when we tried to get Tim in the boat multiple times, he was too weak and cold to get in. Once three people were there, we were able to all pull him in the boat, but he was very incoherent at the time. The paddling conditions were challenging once we got him in the boat because we were pulled away from the shore and we paddled as quickly as we could to get him to shore, but the wind again made things very challenging. Eventually, we were able to signal a NPS boat to get Tim help and begin CPR.



2082
11079324



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Yellowstone National Park
PO Box 168
Yellowstone National Park, WY 82190

Statement Form:

I was in the ~~day~~ we put in a + Grant village with 12 people. I personally stayed behind at the marina, as the 12 people left to go kayak to the W. Thumb geyser basin. I waited about 3 1/2 hrs before Grant Ranger DeLuca pulled up in his squad car and informed me that we had an overturned kayak in the water. 4 of the kayakers returned informing me that 2 people had capsized. We waited to hear more when Park rangers ~~return~~ in boats headed to perform rescue. It was at this time I had heard that there was a young male unresponsive. Minutes later the ~~others of~~ kayakers of 2 more people returned. After that the Park rangers returned performing CPR on Tim Conant. At this point we waited as they continued CPR rotations. An older gentleman named [redacted] being one of the kayakers was being treated for mild hypothermia. I waited as the CPR continued until the park employees/medics ~~could~~ took Tim to the Air pad/Heli Pad to transport him to ERMAC in Idaho Falls. I wait until the park service returns to help ~~us~~ get our lost boats

I have read this statement and have been given the opportunity to make correction thereon. I attest that this statement is true and correct, to the best of my knowledge, and that I gave this statement freely and voluntarily, without coercion or reward.

Signed: [redacted] Date: 6/14/17 Time: 8:02

CASE# 17079324

Statement

1 of 1



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Yellowstone National Park
PO Box 168
Yellowstone National Park, WY 82190

Statement Form:

I was in a kayak with my daughter, [redacted] We were one of 3 kayakers in the front with Tim. We were waiting for the group to catch up. We heard calls for help, I looked back and in appeared a kayak had flipped in the other group. Tim left us (our kayak group of 3) and went to help. We waited for a while, keeping together. Another kayak joined us [redacted] After about 5-10 mins, my son + daughter decided to go back to the group + see if they needed help. They came back to us and said they told us to stay put. We waited another 5-10 mins. Things did not seem to be going well (we are about 2 football fields away). They were drifting further towards the middle of the lake, and it appeared 2 persons were in the water. We (My daughter + I) decided ~~that~~ they needed help. [redacted] paddled back to them, and [redacted] went back to the launch site. It took us an hour to paddle back for help. The Ranger boat was barely as we were ^{coming} in so we gave him location info + [redacted] said we thought 2 were in the water. The paddled back to shore, got out, and waited for my son + daughter [redacted] to get back.

I have read this statement and have been given the opportunity to make correction thereon. I attest that this statement is true and correct, to the best of my knowledge, and that I gave this statement freely and voluntarily, without coercion or reward.

Signed: [redacted] Date: 6-14-17 Time: 7:30p.m.

[redacted]

CASE# 170 79324
10A2



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Yellowstone National Park
PO Box 168
Yellowstone National Park, WY 82190

Statement Form:

Please state the facts of what happened in your own words (describe the who, what, when, where, & how).

I looked behind me and [redacted] was off his boat and in the water. All the guides (Tim, [redacted]) went over to help him. The rest of the group stuck together a bit ahead. They kept drifting farther and farther from shore. [redacted] (my siblings) paddled over to the guides and [redacted] and asked if they needed help. The guides said No. [redacted] paddled back to me and the rest of the group. A few minutes later we saw that Tim was in the water, drifting far from [redacted]. [redacted] Tim's kayak was flipped. 4 people in the middle of the lake. 2 kayakers, me and my mom [redacted] were on one kayak and we decided that we needed to paddle back to shore with [redacted] wife and daughter). [redacted] had a broken kayak (no steering) so they couldn't leave to get

(Use Reverse Side if Needed)

I have read this statement and have been given the opportunity to make corrections thereon. I attest that this statement is true and correct, to the best of my knowledge, and that I gave this statement freely and voluntarily, without coercion or reward.

Signed: [redacted] Date: 6/14/17 Time: _____

Name: [redacted]	Date of Birth / Age: [redacted]
Permanent Address: [redacted]	Local address: [redacted]
Driver's License Number / State: [redacted]	If residence in park, list employer: _____
Telephone: [redacted]	Number of Pages: Page _____ of _____ Pages
Investigating Ranger: _____	Date/Time: _____
Case Number: #17079324	

2012



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Yellowstone National Park
PO Box 168
Yellowstone National Park, WY 82190

Statement Form:

help alone. Because of the condition of their kayak,
 [redacted] and I had to help them a lot. I must have
 taken us over an hour to get back to the boat
 marina. We saw a boat when we were almost
 there and waved them down. I yelled that 2 were
 in the water and needed help. At this point it
 must have been at least 1 1/2 - 2 hours that [redacted]
 and Tim were in the water. ~~they~~

I have read this statement and have been given the opportunity to make correction thereon. I attest that this statement is true and correct, to the best of my knowledge, and that I gave this statement freely and voluntarily, without coercion or reward.

Signed

[redacted signature]

Date:

6/14/17

Time:

7:35pm



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Yellowstone National Park
PO Box 168
Yellowstone National Park, WY 82190

Statement Form:

Please state the facts of what happened in your own words (describe the who, what, when, where, & how).

My husbands kayak overturned. [redacted]
 & Tim went to help him. My granddaughter
 [redacted] and I paddled over
 to get away & give the guides space.
 After a while we looked & Tim was
 in the water. No one came to help so
 2 kayaks decided to paddle to shore
 to get help.

(Use Reverse Side if Needed)

I have read this statement and have been given the opportunity to make corrections thereon. I attest that this statement is true and correct, to the best of my knowledge, and that I gave this statement freely and voluntarily, without coercion or reward.

Signed: [redacted]

Date: 6/14/17

Time: 733

Name: [redacted]	Date: [redacted]
Permanent Address: [redacted]	Local address: @ WI RV Park Cody
Driver's License: [redacted]	If employed in park, list employer:
Telephone: [redacted]	Number of Pages: Page 1 of 1 Pages

Investigating Ranger: [redacted]	Date/Time: 6/14/17	Case Number: #17079324
----------------------------------	--------------------	------------------------

UPDATED 7/2011 OLD FAITHFUL



Statement's

1 of 2



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

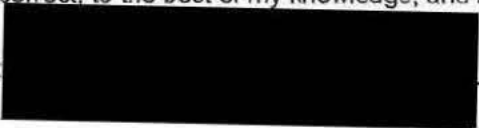
Yellowstone National Park
PO Box 168
Yellowstone National Park, WY 82190

Statement Form:

My Paris Kayka fell over.

I have read this statement and have been given the opportunity to make correction thereon. I attest that this statement is true and correct, to the best of my knowledge, and that I gave this statement freely and voluntarily, without coercion or reward.

Signed



Date: 6/18/17 Time: 7:35.



Statement Form:

In your own words describe the WHO, WHAT, WHEN, WHERE, & HOW.

as to why from kayaking back a boat capsized
 carrying ~~people~~. The tour guide ^{Tim} from capsized and me and
 my little sister (same kayak) went back to ask for help. He said no
 so we went back with the group and ^{was} ~~was~~ ^{rescued} ~~rescued~~ by shore. We
 felt we were needed so we went back ^{away from} ~~back~~ and helped carry the
 gear back to shore with ~~the~~ ^{the} other tour guide while
^{held out to their kayak at 130-200} ~~the~~ ^{other} ~~tour~~ ^{guide} helped the capsized Tim. After dropping
 of the ground form I took my kayak back out to get
 Tim the tour guide. Once I got back to Tim and ~~the~~
 Tim was not very responsive. We tried to pull him on
 the kayak but did not want to risk tipping one of
 us. We had him hold on and tried to turn him back
 which still asking him questions. Then my sister ~~came~~ ^{came} and
 helped flip him onto my kayak. At this point he was
 completely unresponsive and seized/foam coming out of mouth.
 We were then not half way by west gate when we took
 (Use Reverse Side if Needed) *(Changes)*

I have read this statement and have been given the opportunity to make correction thereon. I attest that this statement is true and correct to the best of my knowledge, and that I gave this statement freely and voluntarily, without coercion or reward.

Signed: _____

Date: 6/14/17

Time: 7:30

SHADED AREA TO BE COMPLETED BY OFFICER

Name:	_____	_____
Date of Birth / Age:	_____	OLN _____
SSN	_____	Number of Pages _____ Page _____ of _____ Pages
Local address:	_____	If residence in park, employer: _____

Statement given to (Ranger):	Date/Time:	Case Number:
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STATEMENTS - Kids

CASE# 17079324 Vol 2

Tim into the ^{hopper} boat and drove him back to
the docks. On the way back mo and the coast guard
traded at giving compliments on time until we
reached shore when EMT/Hager talked back over.



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Yellowstone National Park
PO Box 168
Yellowstone National Park, WY 82190

Statement Form:

In your own words describe the WHO, WHAT, WHEN, WHERE, & HOW.

Coming back from the pctg/gypsies we were split into roughly two groups (just the faster people slightly ahead - Tim, Me + [redacted] we looked back when one of the other guides called for help. I stayed with the front group while Tim went back to help [redacted] we stayed while [redacted] wife + granddaughter came up to [redacted] away from scene. After a while, it seemed as if they had made no progress, and Tim's boat had capsized too. [redacted] and I went to help but when we yelled what we could do they said to go back [redacted] and I went back to the group leaving the guides and [redacted] alone. We noticed they were drifting out further and [redacted] and I were both extremely concerned. We went back again to help and this time [redacted] asked if we could tow in [redacted] kayak. Few minutes later we decided that was not really the shittiest idea in world [redacted] I

(Use Reverse Side if Needed)

I have read this statement and have been given the opportunity to make correction thereon. I attest that this statement is true and correct, to the best of my knowledge, and that I gave this statement freely and [redacted] without coercion or reward.

Signed: [redacted]

Date: 6/14/17

Time: 5:41

SHADED AREA TO BE COMPLETED BY OFFICER

Name	[redacted]	Permanent Address	[redacted]
Date of Birth	[redacted]	QIN Number/State	[redacted]
SSN	[redacted]	Number of Pages	Page [redacted] of [redacted] Pages
Local address:	[redacted]	If residence in park, employer:	[redacted]

Statement given to (Ranger):	Date/Time:	Case Number:
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UPDATED 08/15/04 CANYON

Case# 170 7932 4 20PZ

towed [redacted] in with [redacted] -~~she~~ he kept constant level
of consciousness and seemed as good as possible. We towed
him to a shore, [redacted] left to go help [redacted] and
Tim. [redacted] and I removed [redacted] wet ~~the~~ clothes
and gave him as many dry things as possible. I took
[redacted] single kayak back out ~~the~~ to make sure
[redacted] brother) was okay and had not capsized too. The
had drifted out extremely far. (I would say a mile at least)
When I arrived, Tim was in a seizure-like state.
mouth foam, eyes open but unresponsive. we ~~off~~ dragged him
onto [redacted] two-person kayak and [redacted] and I rowed
back to shore. (we really didn't go far rowing). We use
a variety of ~~row~~ waves and whistle blows to try to
control boat ^{our} but by the time we had seen the boat
Tim had lost consciousness. It was not safe to perform
CPR w/o capsizing boat. After the boat picked up
[redacted] we were picked up.



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Yellowstone National Park
PO Box 168
Yellowstone National Park, WY 82190

Statement Form:

Please state the facts of what happened in your own words (describe the who, what, when, where, & how).

We (my wife Emily and I) went on a Kayak tour on Yellowstone lake departing sometime between 2:30 and 3 PM. We were accompanied by 1 other guests and 3 guides. Upon reaching the West geyser basin and turning around, an older gentleman (I think his name was [redacted] who was in a solo kayak capsized. The rest of us (guests not guide) were sent to their shore while the guides attempted to help [redacted]. At some point in the process, Tim's (guide) kayak also capsized. I'm not sure what the duration of time was, but it seemed like 20-30 minutes between capsizes. After they had drifted some [redacted] and his daughter (either [redacted] took [redacted] and the little girl back to the boat dock for help while [redacted] and either [redacted] went to help tow in [redacted] to the shore. My wife [redacted] and I paddled to the geyser basin area to get someone to call EMS. A man on the boardwalk with a walkie-talkie called the ranger station. We returned to [redacted] and [redacted] went to assist Tim while we headed back to the boat dock to make sure the ~~rest of the~~ kayakers that left previously had made it. We found

(Use Reverse Side if Needed)

I have read this statement and have been given the opportunity to make corrections thereon. I attest that this statement is true and correct, to the best of my knowledge, and that I gave this statement freely and voluntarily, without coercion or reward.

Signed: [redacted]

Date: 6/14/17

Time: 7:44 PM

Name: [redacted]	Date of Birth / Age: [redacted]
Permanent Address: [redacted]	Local address: Old Faithful Lodge - 145
Private License Number / State: [redacted]	If residence in park, list employer:
Telephone Number: [redacted]	Number of Pages: Page [redacted] of [redacted] Pages

Investigating Ranger: DELUCA	Date/Time: 6/14/17	Case Number: 17079324
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UPDATED 7/2011 OLD FAITHFUL

[redacted] STATEMENTS

1 of 2



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Yellowstone National Park
PO Box 168
Yellowstone National Park, WY 82190

Statement Form:

Some additional people en route without working cell-phones to call
911, we arrived at the dock to see EMS here

I have read this statement and have been given the opportunity to make correction thereon. I attest that this statement is true and correct, to the best of my knowledge, and that I gave this statement freely and voluntarily, without coercion or reward.

Signed: _____ Date: _____ Time: _____



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Yellowstone National Park
PO Box 168
Yellowstone National Park, WY 82190

Statement Form:

In your own words describe the WHO, WHAT, WHEN, WHERE, & HOW.

*Estimate
leaving 1500*

During a kayak tour of Yellowstone lake, our party turned around near the West Thumb Geyser Basin to head back to the Grant Village boat dock. At roughly 4:30-5 pm ^(complete guess) the older gentleman's kayak tipped. All three guides instructed the rest of the group to stay near shore while they helped upright the man. They were unsuccessful at getting him back into a kayak. From a distance, details were difficult to see, the guide, Tim, also tipped from his kayak ~~to~~ when helping the gentleman. After ~~some struggle, one guide helped the man to shore with the aid of~~ when it became clear more help would be needed ~~the~~ two of the kayak pairs headed back to Grant Village to call for help. Meanwhile, the two remaining guides struggled to tow the injured people to shore. [redacted] helped one guide tow the older gentleman to shore and remove wet clothing, keep him warm, while the other guide tried to help Tim. They drifted farther from shore. After the first group reached shore [redacted] and I paddled to ~~the~~ within shouting distance of the geyser basin boardwalk to get passers-by.

(Use Reverse Side if Needed)

I have read this statement and have been given the opportunity to make correction thereon. I attest that this statement is true and correct, to the best of my knowledge, and that I gave this statement freely and voluntarily, without coercion or reward.

Signed: [redacted] Date: 6/14/17 Time: 7:40 pm

SHADED AREA TO BE COMPLETED BY OFFICER

Name:	[redacted]	Permanent Address:	[redacted]
Date of Birth /	[redacted]	OLN	[redacted]
SSN	[redacted]	Number of Pages	Page _____ of _____ Pages
Local address:	If residence in park, employer:		

Statement given to (Ranger):	Date/Time:	Case Number:
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to radio/call for help. We then paddled back to Grant Village, flagging down every fisherman we saw to call for help. When we left the scene [REDACTED] were paddling out to the two drifting guides to aid. We saw the rescue vehicle heading out when we were roughly $\frac{1}{3}$ - $\frac{1}{2}$ of the way back to Grant Village. We arrived at ~ 6:30 pm, ahead of the rescue boat.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service
Yellowstone National Park
Park Contact: Becky Wyman
Phone Number: (307) 344-2278

COMMERCIAL USE AUTHORIZATION
UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF P.L. 105-391 Section 418. (54 U.S.C. 101925)

1. Authorized Activity:
Non-Motorized Boats

Permit Number: CUA13-120
Park Alpha-Number

2. Authorization Holder Information:

Business Name: OARS
Contact Name: Tyler Wendt
Address: P. O. Box 67
Angels Camp, CA 95222
Phone and Fax: (209)736-4677

Auth Date/Time: 1/1/2017

Expiration Date/Time: 12/31/2017

Name of Area:
(If applicable)

3. The holder is hereby authorized to use the following described land or facilities in the above named area (area must be restored to its original condition at the end of the authorization):
Yellowstone National Park

4. Summary of authorized activity: (see attached sheets for additional information and conditions)
Non-Motorized Boats

Out-of-Park: The commercial services described above must originate and terminate outside of the boundaries of the park area. This permit does not authorize the holder to advertise, solicit business, collect fees, or sell any goods or services within the boundaries of the park area.

In-Park: The commercial service described above must originate and be provided solely within the boundaries of the park area

5. NEPA/NHPA Compliance:

Categorical Exclusion EA/FONSI EIS Other Approved Plans PEPC NUMBER:

6. Reasonable fee: (Cost recovery required at a minimum)

Application Fee: Required Amount \$300.00 per service Received 01/09/17
Administrative Fee: Required Not Required Amount _____
Management Fee: Required Not Required Amount _____
Market Price: Required Not Required Amount % of gross receipts
Other Fee (Facility Use Fee, Gate Access or Other): Required Not Required Amount _____


7. Insurance:

Liability: Required Not Required Coverage Amount \$500,000 per occurrence
Auto: Required Not Required Coverage Amount as required for service type
Boat: Required Not Required Coverage Amount _____
Airplane: Required Not Required Coverage Amount _____

ISSUANCE of this authorization is subject to the conditions below. The undersigned hereby accepts this authorization subject to the terms, covenants, obligations, and reservations, expressed or implied herein.

8. SIGNATURES

Authorization Holder:

 President
Signature Title Date 2/6/17

Authorizing NPS Official:

GEORGE HELFRICH
Signature Title Chief, Concessions Management Date

Authorizing NPS Official:
(additional if required¹)

Signature Title Date

¹ NPS Regional Director approval is required if Gross Receipts are expected to exceed \$100,000

CONDITIONS OF THIS AUTHORIZATION

1. The holder is prohibited from knowingly giving false information. To do so will be considered a breach of conditions and be grounds for revocation: [RE: 36 CFR 2.32(a) (3)].
2. The holder shall exercise this privilege subject to the supervision of the park area Superintendent. The holder shall comply with all applicable laws and regulations of the area and terms and conditions of the authorization. The holder must acquire all permits or licenses of State or local government, as applicable, necessary to provide the services described above, and, must operate in compliance with all applicable Federal, State, and local laws and regulations, including, without limitation, all applicable park area policies, procedures and regulations. The commercial services described above are to be provided to park area visitors at reasonable rates and under operating conditions satisfactory to the park area Superintendent.
3. This authorization is issued upon the express condition that the United States, its agents and employees shall be free from all liabilities and claims for damages and/or suits for or by reason of any injury, injuries, or death to any person or persons or property of any kind whatsoever, whether to the person or property of the (holder), its agents or employees, or third parties, from any cause or causes whatsoever while in or upon said premises or any part thereof during the term of this authorization or occasioned by any occupancy or use of said premises or any activity carried on by the (holder) in connection herewith, and the (holder) hereby covenants and agrees to indemnify, defend, save and hold harmless the United States, its agents, and employees from all liabilities, charges, expenses and costs on account of or by reason of any such injuries, deaths, liabilities, claims, suits or losses however occurring or damages growing out of the same.
4. Holder agrees to carry general liability insurance against claims occasioned by the action or omissions of the holder, its agents and employees in carrying out activities and operations under this authorization. The policy shall be at least \$500,000.00 and naming the United States of America as additional insured. Holder agrees to have on file with the park copies of the above insurance with the proper endorsements.
5. Costs incurred by the park as a result of accepting and processing the application and managing and monitoring the authorization activity will be reimbursed by the holder. Administrative costs and estimated costs for activities onsite must be paid when the authorization is approved. If any additional costs are incurred by the park, the holder will be billed at the conclusion of the authorization.
6. Benefit – Neither Members of, nor Delegates to Congress, or Resident Commissioners shall be admitted to any share or part of this authorization or derive, either directly or indirectly, any pecuniary benefit to arise therefrom: Provided, however, that nothing herein contained shall be construed to extend to any incorporated company, if the authorization be for the benefit of such corporation.
7. This authorization may not be transferred or assigned without the written consent of the park area Superintendent.
8. This authorization may be terminated upon breach of any of the conditions herein or at the discretion of the park area Superintendent.
9. The holder is not entitled to any preference to renewal of this authorization except to the extent otherwise expressly provided by law. This authorization is not exclusive and is not a concession contract.
10. The holder shall not construct any structures, fixtures or improvements in the park area. The holder shall not engage in any groundbreaking activities without the express, written approval of the park area Superintendent.
11. The holder is to provide the park area Superintendent upon request (and, in any event, immediately after expiration of this authorization) a statement of its gross receipts from its activities under this authorization and any other specific information related to the holder's operations that the park area Superintendent may request, including but not limited to, visitor use statistics, and resource impact assessments.
12. The holder is to maintain an accounting system under which its accounts can be readily identified within its system of accounts classification. This accounting system must be capable of providing the information required by this

authorization. The holder grants the United States of America and the Government Accountability Office access to its books and records at any time for the purpose of determining compliance with the terms and conditions of this authorization.

13. Executive Order 13658 – Establishing a Minimum Wage for Contractors, and its implementing regulations, including the applicable contract clause, are incorporated by reference into this contract as if fully set forth in this contract. The applicable contract clause is available at <https://federalregister.gov/a/2014-23533>.

APPENDIX SPECIAL PARK CONDITIONS

Yellowstone - Specific conditions continue below:

1. Damages - The holder will leave the area(s) authorized for use under this permit in substantially the same condition as it was prior to the activities authorized herein and shall pay the United States for any damage resulting from this use which would not reasonably be inherent in the authorized use.
2. The holder will not advertise, solicit business, collect any fees, or sell any goods or services on lands owned and controlled by the United States Government. Websites must include a statement that the holder is an authorized permittee of the National Park Service; brochures and rack cards are optional. CUA holders are not allowed to use the NPS arrowhead or Authorized Concessioner Mark.
3. **The CUA holder is not allowed to use a form that asks clients to waive liability or indemnify their company. CUA holders may require an Acknowledgement of Risk.** CUA holders are encouraged to use the NPS approved Acknowledgement of Risk Form, which will be provided electronically upon request. CUA holders may add a description of specific risks and dangers inherent to the particular authorized activities but may not modify the text. A current Acknowledgement of Risk form or statement that one is not used must be on file with Yellowstone National Park (YELL) Concessions Management Office.
4. All incidents involving vehicle property damage or personal injury must be reported to park's Communication Dispatch by calling (307) 344-2640 or a park ranger as soon as possible or within 24 hours. These incidents must also be relayed to the Concessions Management Office of YELL within 24 hours: yell_concessions@nps.gov
5. CUA holders and employees are prohibited from possessing firearms while on duty within the park. CUA holders are responsible for determining whether state or local laws allow the possession of firearms by their clients. **All CUA holders must have a current copy of their firearm possession policy on file with the park.**
6. The CUA holder may use legally obtained plant, animal, geological and cultural specimens for client educational purposes only. Clients must be advised that possessing, destroying, removing or disturbing specimens in a National Park is strictly prohibited. To comply with park regulations, all specimens or parts thereof must remain inside the vehicle and remain out of sight of other visitors while operating in Yellowstone National Park. Prior to bringing items in the park, the CUA holder must obtain a *Permit to Transport* permit from an entrance station.
7. Guides and/or group leaders must have in their possession an Authorized Guide Card and a copy of their current CUA.
8. At a minimum, one guide on each trip must be currently certified in Standard First Aid and CPR and carry a first aid kit. Wilderness First Aid or Wilderness First Responder certification is recommended for Day

Hiking, Overnight Backcountry Trips, Non-Motorized Boating, Stream & Shoreline Fishing, Guided Bicycle Tours and Guided Skiing & Snowshoeing. A written list of guides, with description of basic qualifications and expiration dates of their first aid and CPR certification, must be provided to the Concessions Management office prior to beginning operations and as staffing changes. The NPS will provide a form to submit. CPR and 1st aid cards need not be submitted.

9. Guides must be at least 18 years of age and trained in basic safety, resource protection, Leave No Trace principles, park rules and regulations and in the requirements of the CUA terms and conditions.
10. The holder will ensure that clients are properly clothed and equipped for the authorized activity.
11. This authorization does not confer exclusive use of any area in the park. All groups must honor the rights of others and conduct themselves in an orderly manner at all times.
12. "Foot travel **in all thermal areas** and within the Yellowstone Canyon between the Upper Falls and Inspiration Point must be confined to boardwalks or trails that are maintained for such travel and are marked by official signs." 36 CFR, Ch1, se. 7.13(i) **No off-trail travel is allowed; stay on designated boardwalks and trails.**
13. The CUA holder must ensure that all clients and guides *maintain* a distance of at least 100 yards from bears and wolves. A distance of 25 yards is required from bison, elk and other animals.
14. The CUA holder or guide shall provide all clients with an orientation prior to the trip which emphasizes safe practices while hiking in bear habitat, Leave No Trace ethics, park rules and regulations, and specific nature, demands, and dangers of the particular trip.
15. Guides may not meet clients on park concessioner's land assignments or at NPS Visitor Centers.
16. The holder will not conduct any form of guided activity that conflicts with National Park Service ranger-led interpretive programs or conducted activities.
17. The CUA holder must provide all visitor services in a manner that is consistent with and supportive of the interpretative goals and objectives of the park.
18. While in Yellowstone, the CUA holder or guide is responsible for their clients during the guided portion of their trip.
19. Entrance Fees:
 - Guides leading trips and employees of commercial operators conducting business inside the park area must identify themselves at area entrance stations.
 - Participants age 16 and older entering the park area must pay applicable entrance fees.
 - Guides and employees of commercial operators entering the park area to recreate personally must pay appropriate entrance fees.
20. Food Services: REFER TO APPENDIX A
 - All food service and sanitary procedures are subject to U.S. Public Health Standards and inspections.
 - If food is provided for a charge, that fee must be included in the Concessioner's gross receipts.
 - The CUA holder must obtain all food brought into the park from a food facility that is approved, inspected, and licensed by the appropriate state or local authority.
 - The CUA holder may provide cold box lunches.
 - If hot meals are provided, it must be obtained from an approved source, and must be transported in a

manner that protects the food from contamination and maintains an internal temperature of greater than or equal to 135 degrees Fahrenheit.

- The temperature of refrigerated food will be maintained at 41 degrees Fahrenheit or less.
- The thermometer must be used to monitor temperatures.
- Pocket knives or sheath knives must not be used for food preparation.
- All CUA holder-provided water must be from an approved potable water source. Acceptable potable water sources include approved public water systems and/or commercially bottled water. Drinking water supplied from a public water system must be transported and held in smooth, cleanable, tightly-sealed, food-grade containers with a spigot or other sanitary means for dispensing (no dipping from the container). The CUA holder must provide individual, single-service cups for dispensing from these containers. Drinking containers must be kept free from contamination and be disinfected between every use.
- Disinfection Procedures: Drinking water containers must be disinfected by utilizing proper wash/rinse/sanitizing procedures in a licensed commercial food facility. Alternatively, if commercial food facilities are not available, proper disinfection of drinking water containers between uses will be provided by placing 2 tablespoons of 6% chlorine bleach in a 5 gallon container of water, mixing and allowing to stand for 30 minutes. The container will then be emptied, rinsed with potable water, and finally filled with water from the approved source.
- The holder must make every effort to prevent bears from having access to human food sources. All employees working in the park area must follow the park's food storage regulations, which can be found in section 2.10 (d) of the Superintendent's Compendium.

21. The holder will abide by the applicable activity-specific operating plan.

22. Reporting Requirements:

- CUA holders must meet the following annual and monthly reporting requirements in order to maintain a valid authorization. Reporting requirements include:

Document	Due
Monthly Use Report	4 th of each month
Annual Financial Report (AFR)	January 31 following the operating year
Guides List	April 1 or before operation begins
Insurance Certificate	As insurance expires/renews

23. Annual Fees:

CUA holders must remit required fees each year in order to maintain a valid authorization. Required fee are calculated based on the following schedule:

Application Fee	
\$300 per service - Due with application	
Market Price Fee based on Percentage of Gross Receipts	
Due by January 31 following the operating year	
(\$300.00 per service application fee acts as a credit towards the following)	
Less than \$250,000.00	3% of gross receipts
Between \$250,000.00 and \$500,000.00	4% of gross receipts in addition to the prior amount
Over \$500,000.00	5% of total gross receipts in addition to the two prior amounts.

**COMMERCIAL USE AUTHORIZATION FOR
GUIDED NON-MOTORIZED BOATS - DORIES, KAYAKS & CANOES
OPERATING PLAN – EXHIBIT B**

General Provision

- 1) The CUA for Non-Motorized Boats allows the CUA holder to conduct guided touring using dories, single or tandem kayaks, canoe, and other small non-motorized vessels in Yellowstone, Lewis and Shoshone Lakes.
- 2) Overnight backcountry use is **not** an authorized use unless the CUA holder has a CUA for Overnight Backpacking Trips.
- 3) Incidental fishing by clients is permitted provided clients have a Yellowstone National Park fishing permit and obey park fishing regulations. Fishing permits are required for anyone 16 years and older.
- 4) There is a maximum limit of 15 boats per group excluding the guide, and are limited to three groups per day. Each group must have a qualified guide. Launch times must be scheduled 30 minutes apart. Group size may increase with written permission from the park.
- 5) While on Yellowstone Lake, Lewis Lake, or Shoshone Lake, the CUA holder or guide shall remain with their clients for the duration of the trip.
- 6) Every vessel must have a current Yellowstone National Park boat permit and a map of Yellowstone and/or Shoshone Lakes when operating there. Operators are required to be familiar with and follow the rules and regulations found in the "Yellowstone National Park Boating Regulations" publication.
- 7) To prevent Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS), the CUA holder must ensure gear, tackle, clothing, and equipment (especially wading boots) are cleaned and dried before entering or changing Yellowstone waters.
- 8) All watercraft, trailers, towing vehicles and water recreational gear (including any inflatable or float tube and associated water recreational articles) must undergo an Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) inspection prior to entering any water within Yellowstone National Park. AIS inspections must be done at the same time a boat permit is issued and conducted only by authorized NPS AIS staff.
- 9) Any watercraft, trailer, tow vehicle, or other article immersed in park waters known to contain Aquatic Invasive Species, shall be thoroughly inspected and cleaned prior to entering any other waters within the park.
 - Waters contaminated by Aquatic Invasive Species include: Yellowstone Lake, Yellowstone river (Yellowstone Lake to the park north boundary), Pelican Creek, Gardiner River (Mammoth Hot Springs to the park north boundary), Lewis River (south of Lewis Falls), Madison River, Gibbon River (Madison to Norris), Firehole River (Madison to Old Faithful), and Nez Perce Creek.
- 10) Boats are limited to drift within 25 feet (~7.5 meters) of shoreline thermal features, and are not allowed to land within 32 feet (~10 meters) of thermal features.

Guide First	Guide Last	CPR Cert	First Aid Cert	Level
		8/1/2017	8/1/2017	EMT
		5/30/2017	5/30/2017	WFR
		5/1/2018	5/1/2018	WFR
		4/20/2020	4/20/2019	WFR
		1/6/2020	1/6/2020	WFR
		3/1/2018	3/1/2018	EMT
		6/3/2019	6/3/2019	WFR
		4/20/2020	4/20/2019	WFR
		5/31/2018	5/31/2018	WFA
		6/4/2017	6/4/2017	WFA
Tim	Conant	4/2/2019	4/2/2019	WFA
		5/22/2019	5/22/2019	WFA
		5/26/2019	5/26/2019	WFA
		12/15/2019	12/15/2019	BFA
		2/26/2019	2/26/2019	WFR
		5/21/2019	5/21/2019	WFA
		6/17/2018	6/17/2018	BFA
		6/4/2019	5/12/2019	WFR
		6/5/2019	6/5/2019	WFA
		5/26/2019	5/26/2019	WFA
		6/1/2018	6/1/2018	BFA
		3/31/2018	3/31/2018	EMT
		5/26/2019	5/26/2019	WFA

AS of 6/15/2017
 All 4 Guides included -
 Valid in
 Yellowstone
 PER COMMISSIONER
 office
 Den #2489

Emergency Services

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior



Search and Rescue Report - PAGE 1

Version 4.1
REV 2013

Use Tab to move between fields.

Park: Region: Major SAR?: Yes Major SAR Number:

Incident Commander: Case Number: **NP-**

Park SAR Number: Day of Week:

Date of Notification: Time Notified (24 hour format)

Date Subject Contacted: Time Subject Contacted (24 hour format)

Location:

Coordinates:

Notification Method:

Incident Type: Contributing Factor- 1st:

Mutual Aid?: Contributing Factor- 2nd:

Subject Organization: Contributing Factor- 3rd:

Subject Activity: Rescue Method - 1st:

Incident Environment: Rescue Method - 2nd:

SAR Disposition: Rescue Method - 3rd:

Subject Info:	Age	Sex	Experience Level
Subject #1:	<input type="text" value="23"/>	<input type="text" value="Male"/>	<input type="text" value="2. Beginner/Novice/Limited Skills"/>
Subject #2:	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Subject #3:	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

Number Ill or Injured	Number <u>Not</u> Ill or Injured	Number of Fatalities	Number of Saves
<input type="text" value="2"/>	<input type="text" value="10"/>	<input type="text" value="1"/>	<input type="text"/>

The Following Items are Reported Only When Incidents Involve Searches For Lost Subjects

Search Type:

Linear Distance In Miles from PLS: (blank if unknown)

Vertical Direction from PLS:

Search Duration:



Search and Rescue Report - PAGE 2

Version 4.1
REV 2013

Use Tab to move between fields.

Incident Narrative:

(Type or Paste Text In Block)

Dispatch

Grant Rangers were returning from another SAR when they were notified via radio of a report of a kayak group in trouble off the West Thumb Geyser Basin Boardwalk. The initial report came in via cellphone to a Lake Ranger's cell phone and had little information except that people were in the water in the West Thumb Area. A second report was also being received at the West Thumb bookstore by volunteers about a kayak that was "stuck" on the Lake near West Thumb.

Initial Resources

Incident Commander - F. DeLuca
Boat Operator/Paramedic - B. Elliott
Swimmer/EMT - J. Poley
West Thumb Land Hasty Search - M. Chavarsky
Grant 1 - Staffed by EMT/LE Y. Goins

Incident Narrative

Based upon the initial report, Elliott and Poley responded immediately to the Grant marina and launched the Grant patrol boat the "Eagle" out in the the West Thumb basin area. Chavarsky responded to a begin a hasty search of the West Thumb shoreline and DeLuca set up a command post in the Grant Marina parking lot. DeLuca identified over the radio that the commercial kayak group still out on the water was "OARS Kayak" based on who was parked in the parking area and gave a description of the kayaks.

While on the way out of the marina, the Eagle encountered part of the OARS group confirming other members of the group were further down the shoreline, toward the Grant Campground, and that people were still in the water, and possibly hypothermic. Elliott reported this to DeLuca, and DeLuca requested additional boat resources from Lake Boat Patrol to respond to the scene.

As the Eagle proceed down the shoreline they located the first injured kayak client who was on the beach with a kayak guide between the marina and the geyser basin. Elliott brought the boat into shore and Poley did a quick patient assessment. This patient was suffering from mild hypothermia but was stable. The patient and guide were then loaded onto the patrol boat. Using binoculars Elliott was able to locate another group of kayak's rafted together about a 1/4 mile off shore and started toward them.

Upon arrival at the second group Elliott reported via radio that he had located and unconscious, unresponsive Patient, who had been in the water for up to 30 minutes and they were beginning CPR.

At 18:34 hours DeLuca contacted the comm center via radio and requested additional units and a Life Flight to the Grant Helipad.

Additional Resources Requested

Requested to the Scene EMS - Derene, Suarez, Brearley, Neidhardt
Lake 1 - For 1st Hypothermic patient
Grant Fire - Set up Landing Zone at Helipad - Stooza
Investigation Support - Bock
Lake Boat Patrol

Upon arrival at Grant Marina Boat Ramp CPR was continued by medical providers and additional arriving Rangers as the patient was moved from the patrol boat to the dock. Grant Fire Department was paged to be the ground contact for the Landing Zone in Grant Village. At this time it was still unclear whether any additional kayaks were

missing so Lake Boat Patrol Rangers who were now on scene in the West Thumb Geyser Basin begin a grid pattern search looking for missing kayaks.

Bock was assigned to begin to interview the bystanders/witnesses in more detail, assisted by DeLuca.

Lake Ambulance 1 arrived on scene and assumed patient care of the kayak client who was found on the beach suffering from hypothermia. This patient would later be transported to Lake Clinic and later released.

The Lifelight landed at the Grant Helipad and CPR continued as park paramedics consulted with medical control via cellphone. Flight Medics were brought to the scene and joined in the resuscitation efforts. The patient was then moved to the Grant 1 ambulance and transported back the waiting helicopter at the Grant Helipad where resuscitation efforts continued. At some point at the heipad the patient was pronounced dead. (See corners report/ medical reports for details)

As a result of Ranger Bock's investigative interviews we were able to gather witness statements and determine there were no additional missing persons from this incident and Lake Patrol Units began to focus their efforts on recovering missing kayaks and equipment. In the end they were unable to recover the deceased kayak guides kayak or drybag's.

A coroner response was requested through dispatch and the body of Timothy Hayden Ryan CONANT was then transported to the Grant Ranger Station were it was transferred to the custody of the Deputy Coroner, Christine Farrar.

Command was terminated at the scene. The continued investigation of this fatality was transfered to DeLuca with Bock assisting. (See investigative report for further if needed)

END OF SAR REPORT



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IMG_0072



IMG_0073



IMG_0074



IMG_0075



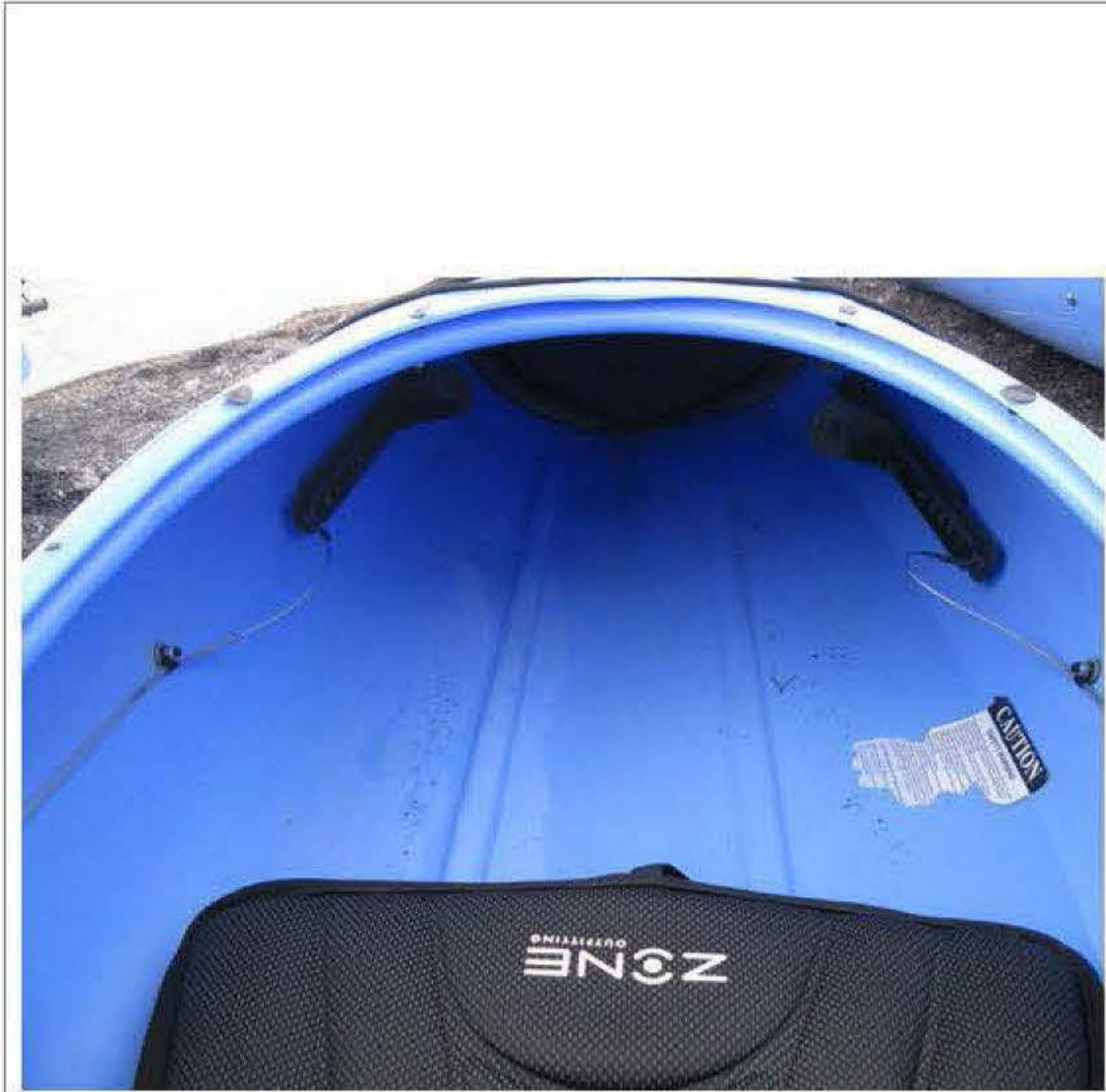
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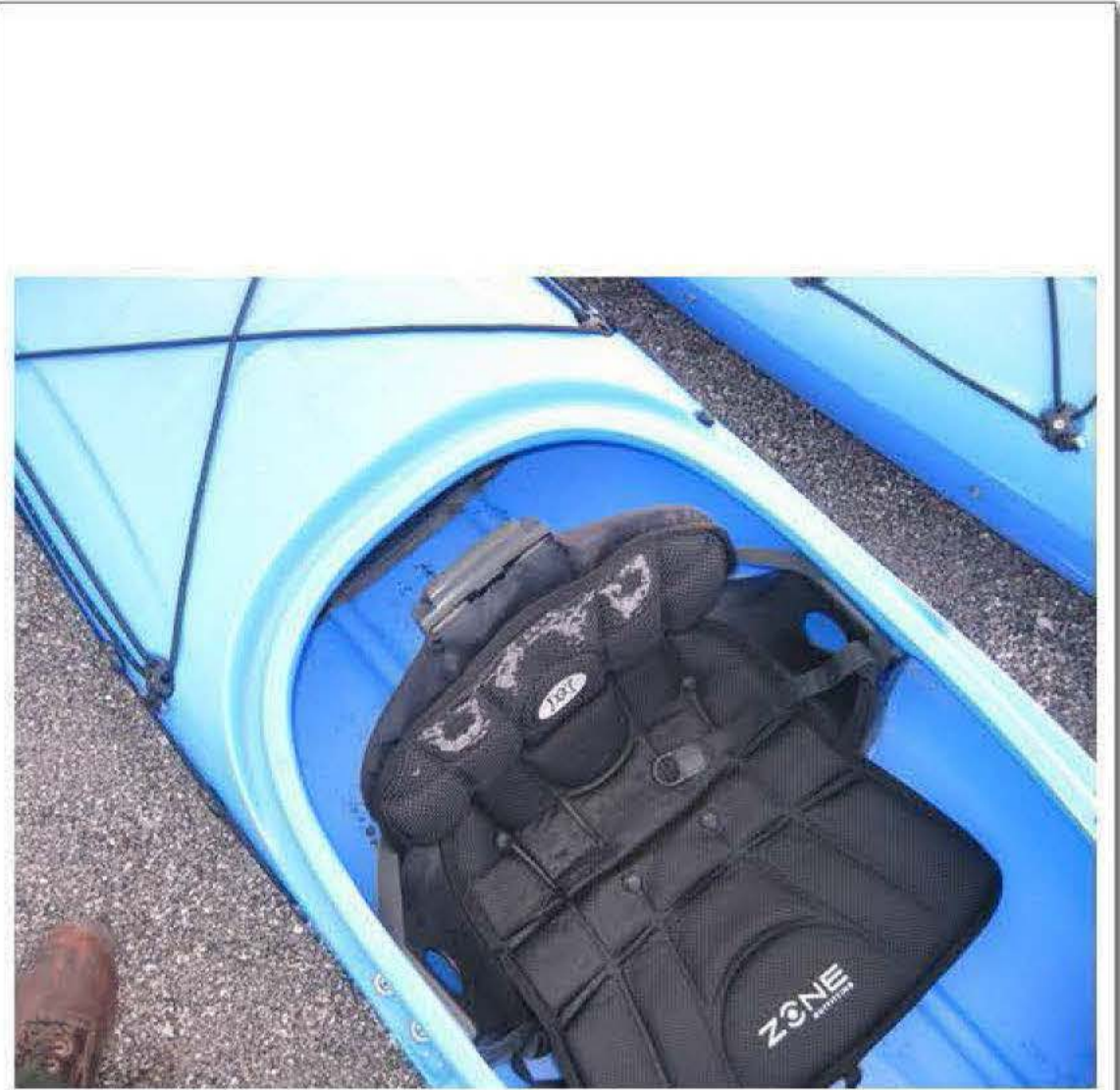
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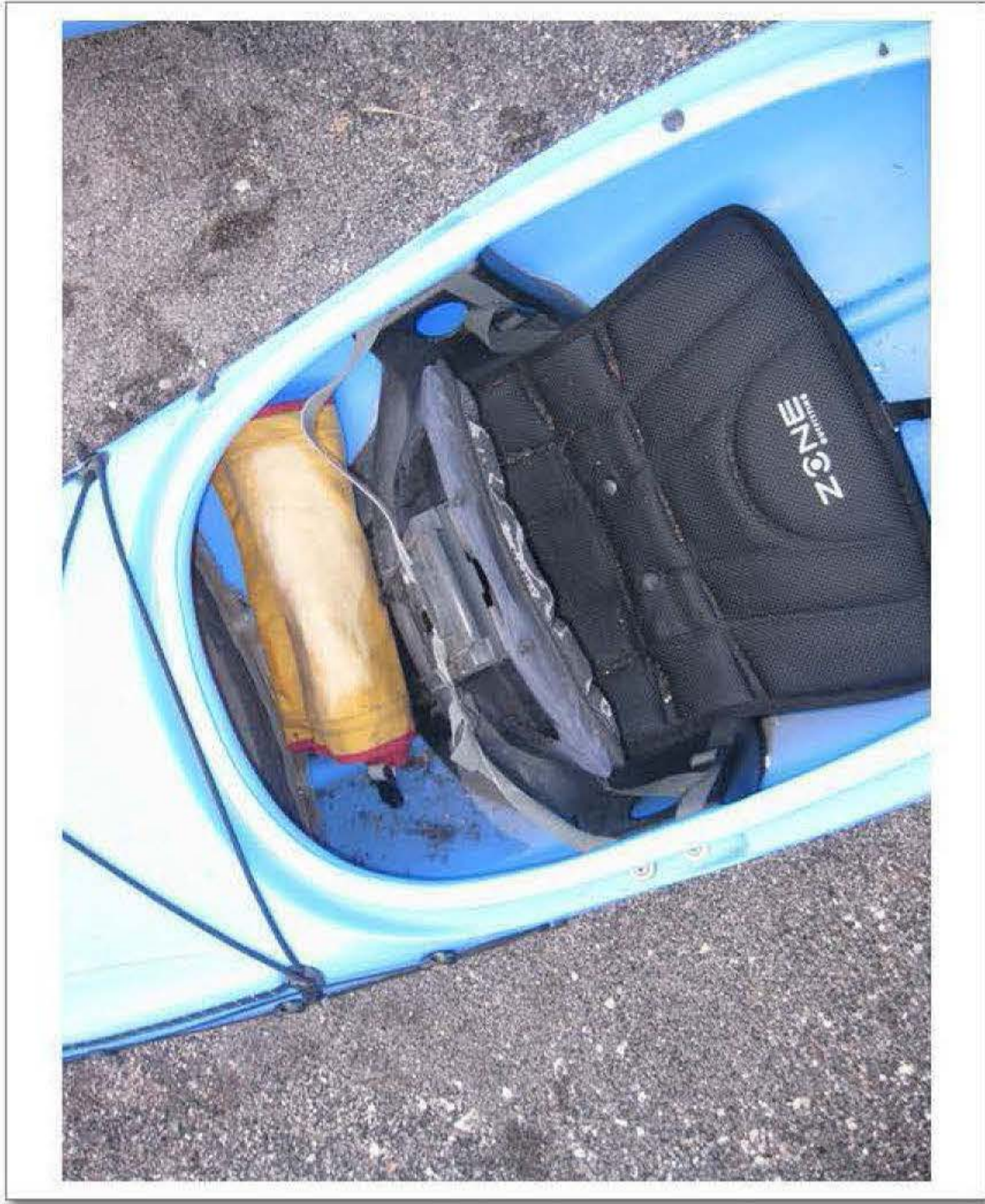
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IMG_0082



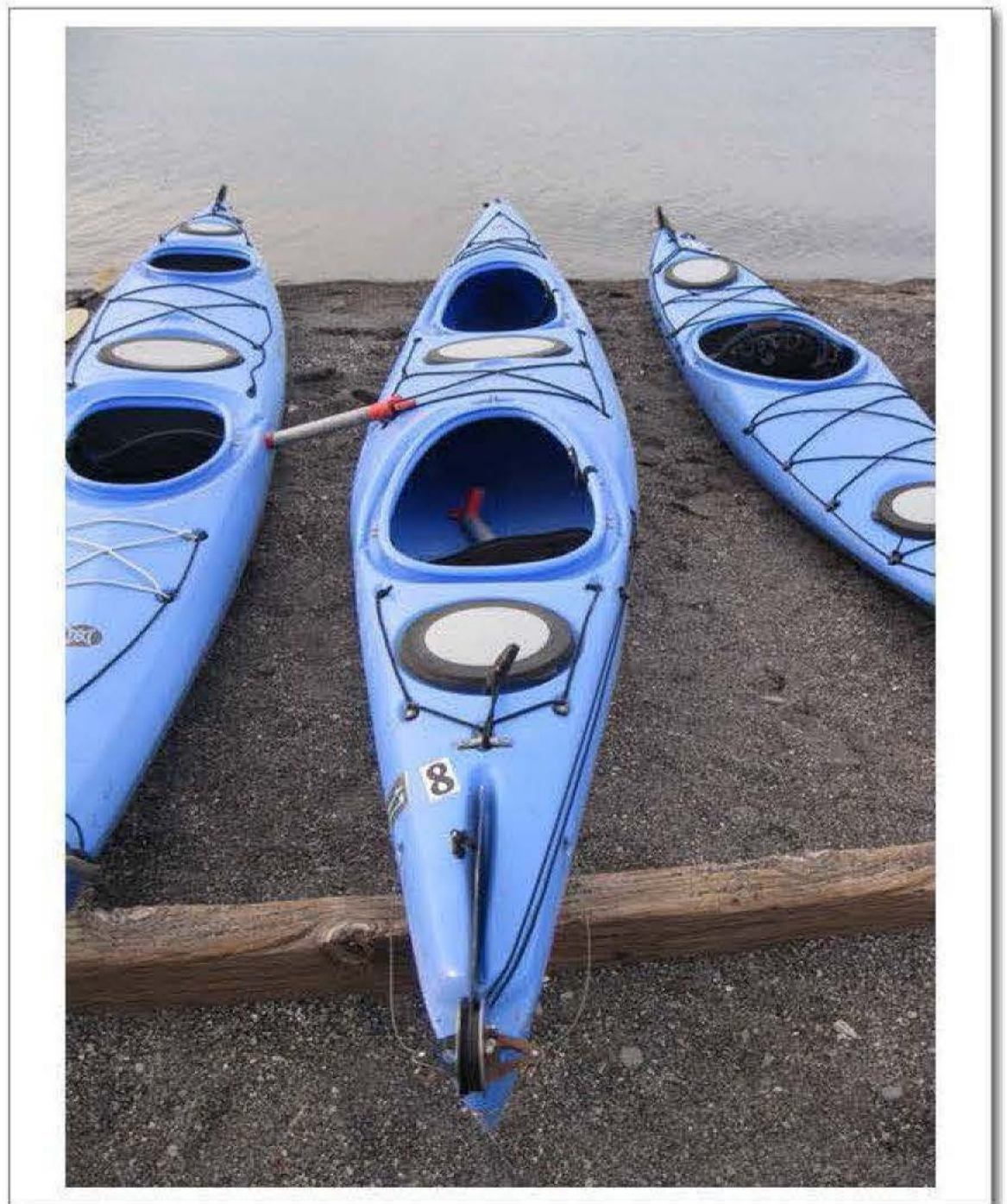
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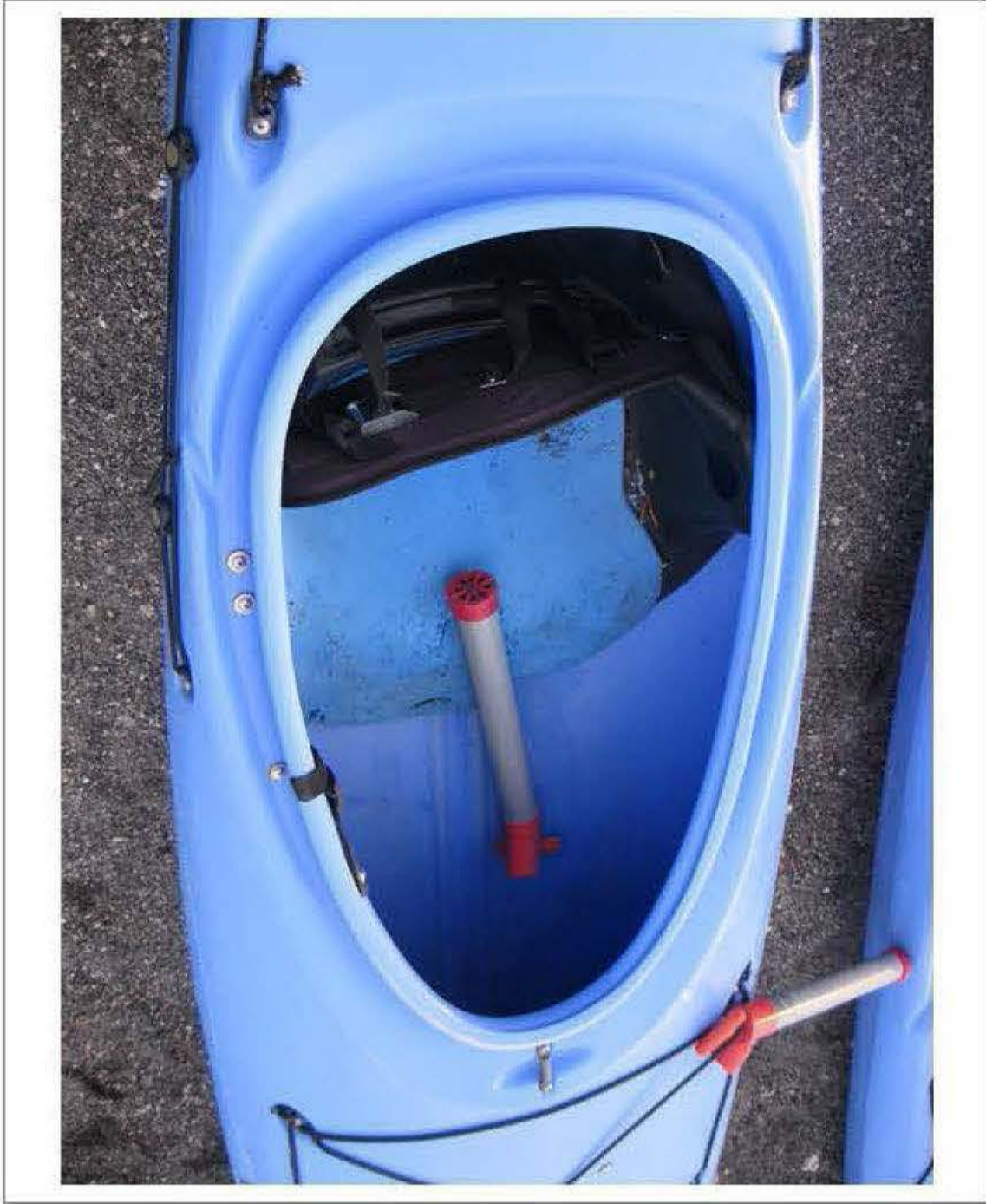
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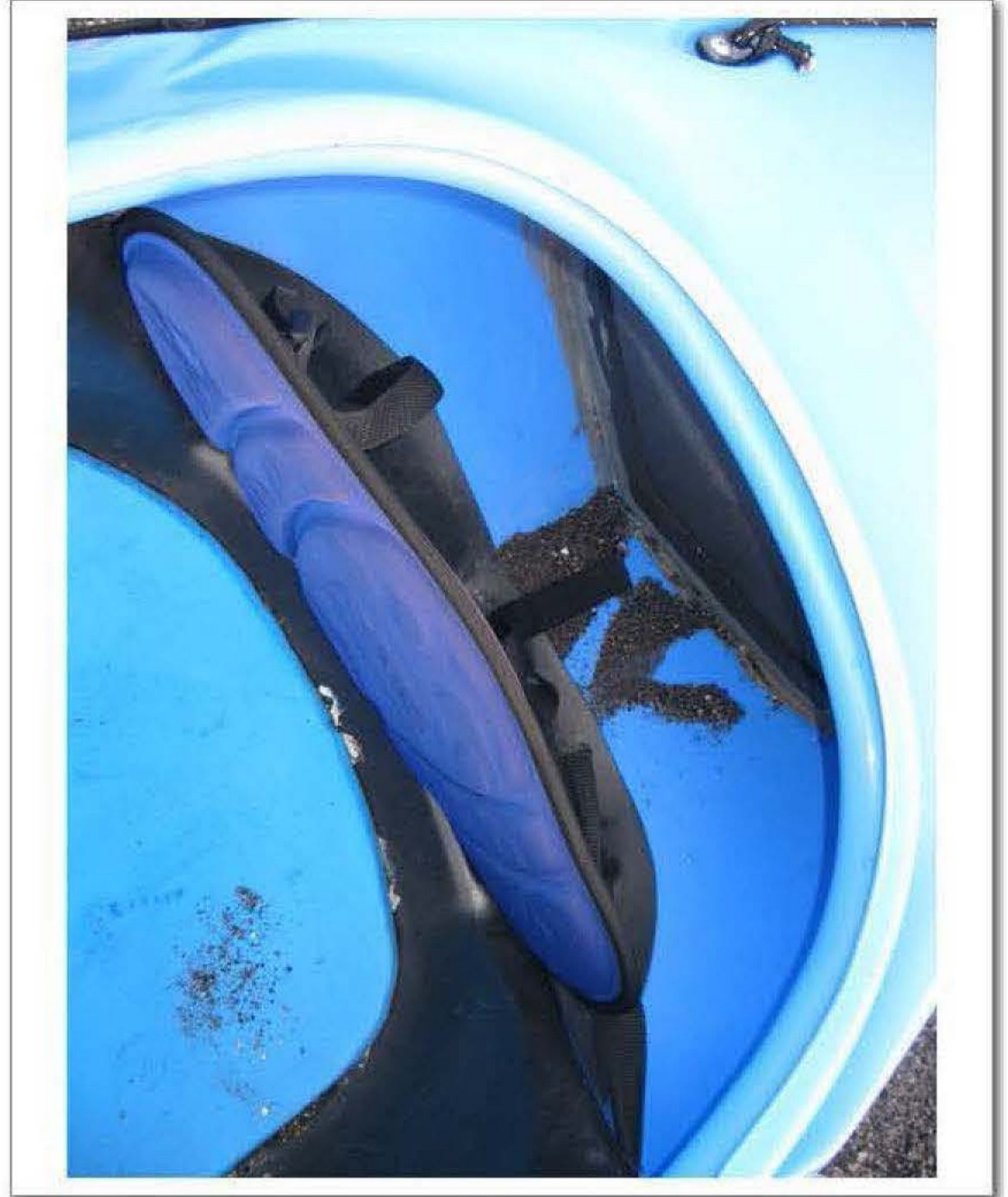
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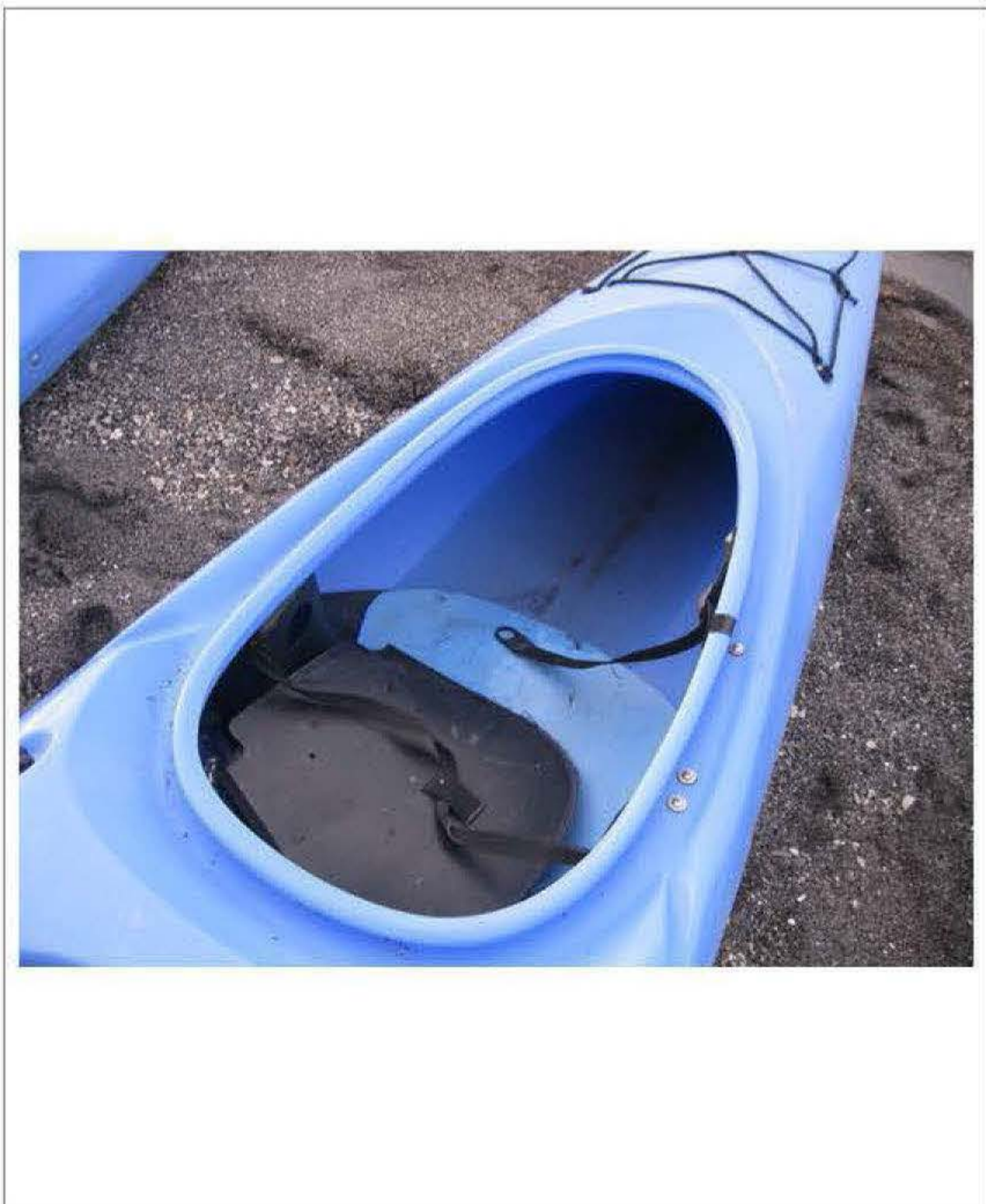
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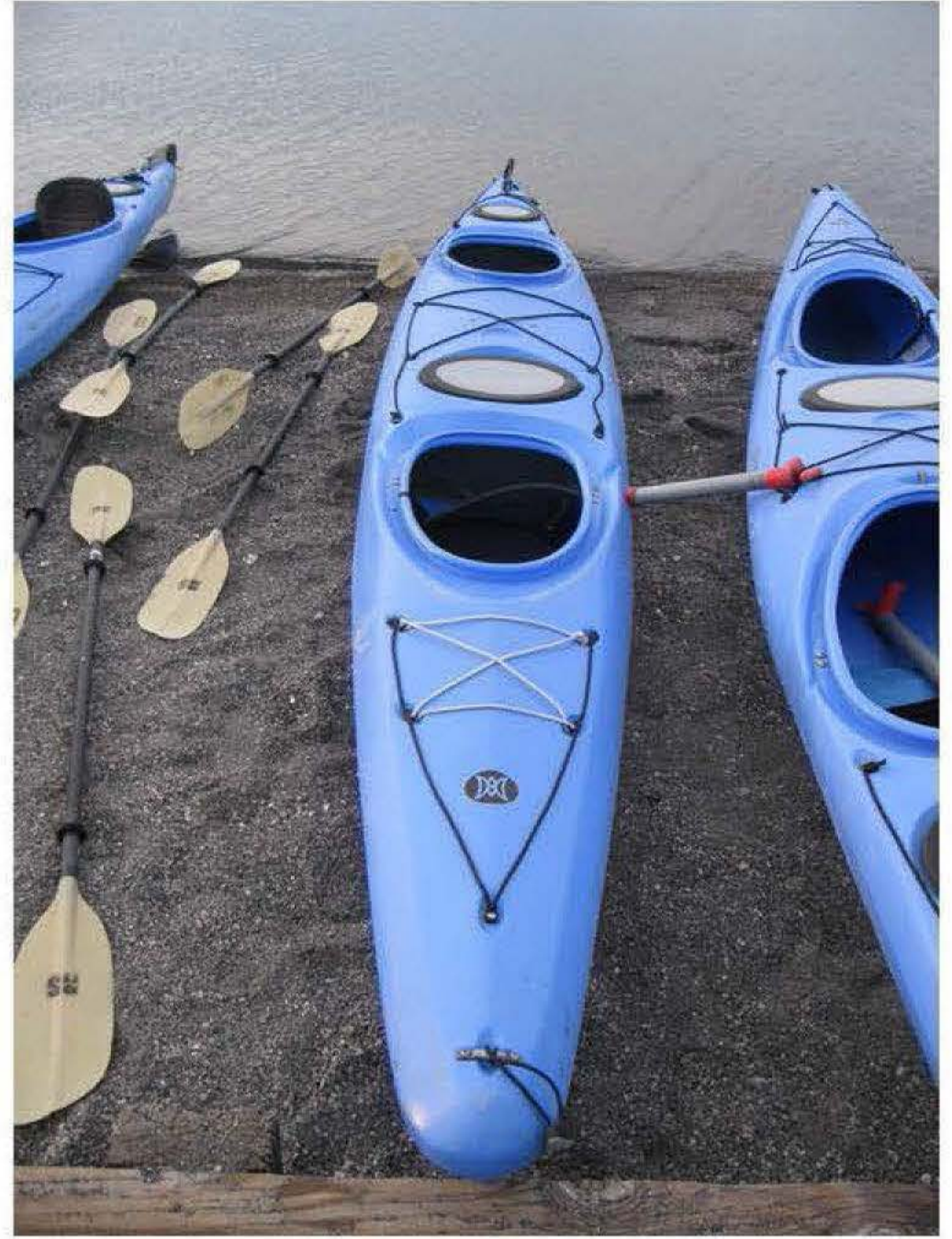
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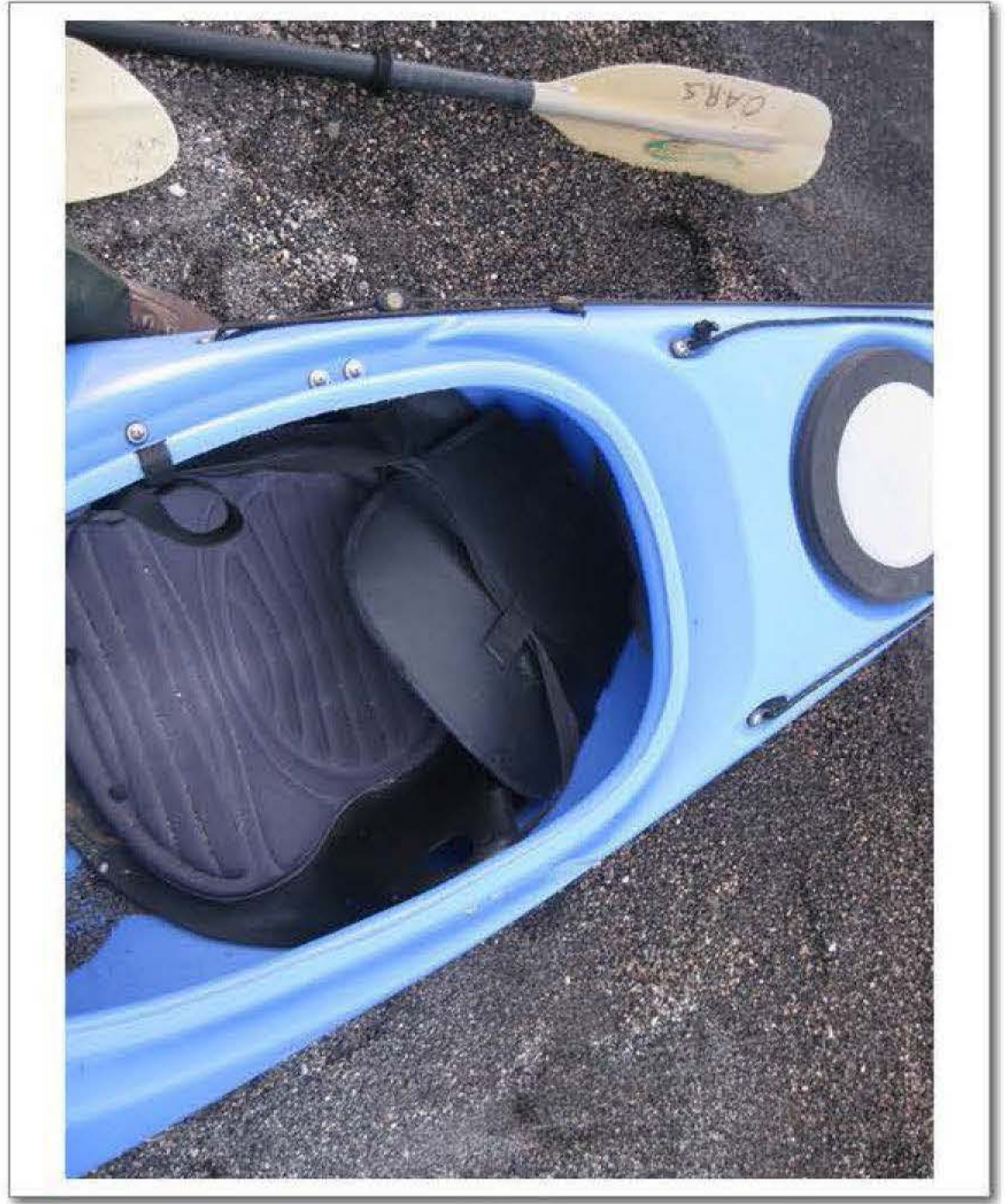
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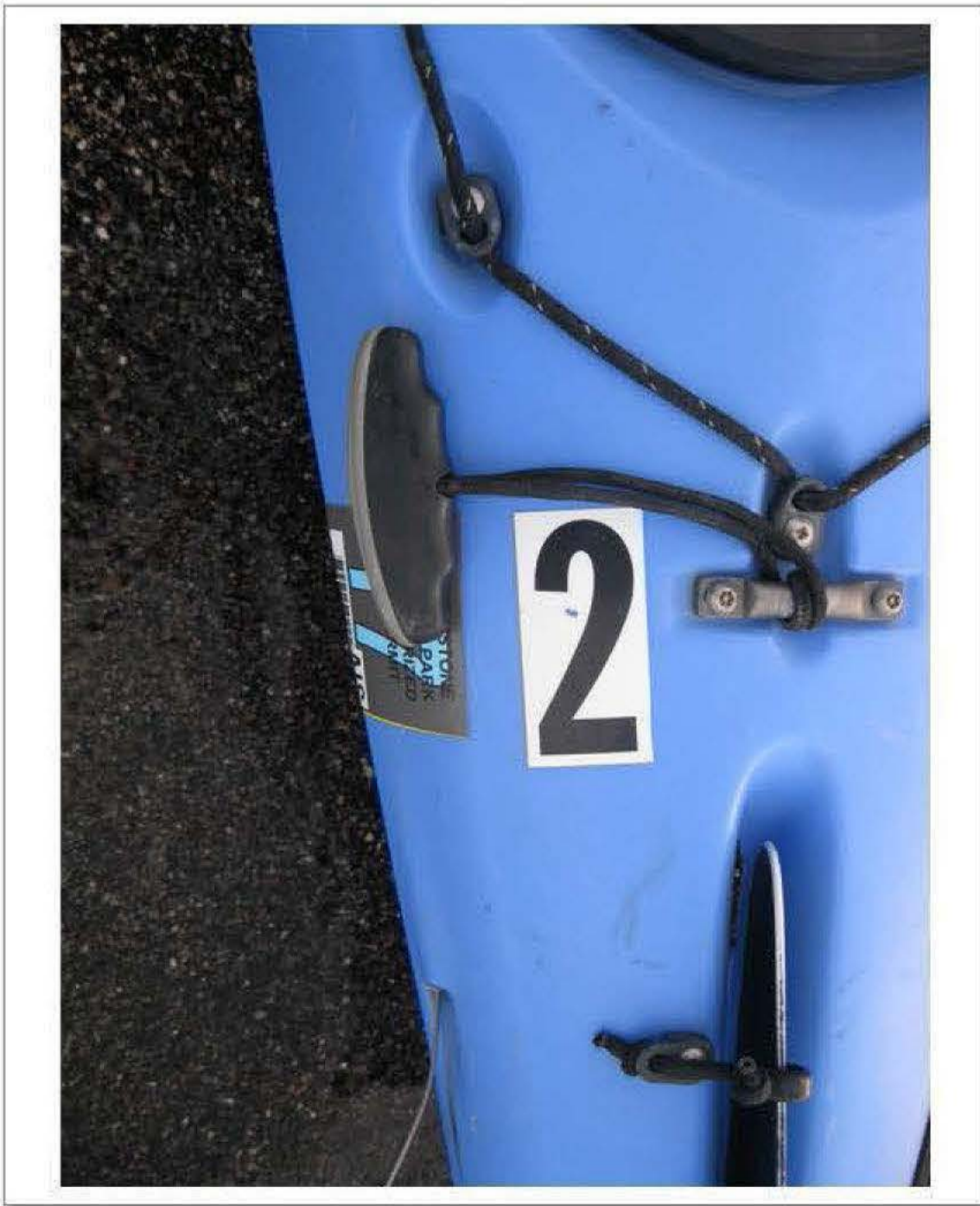
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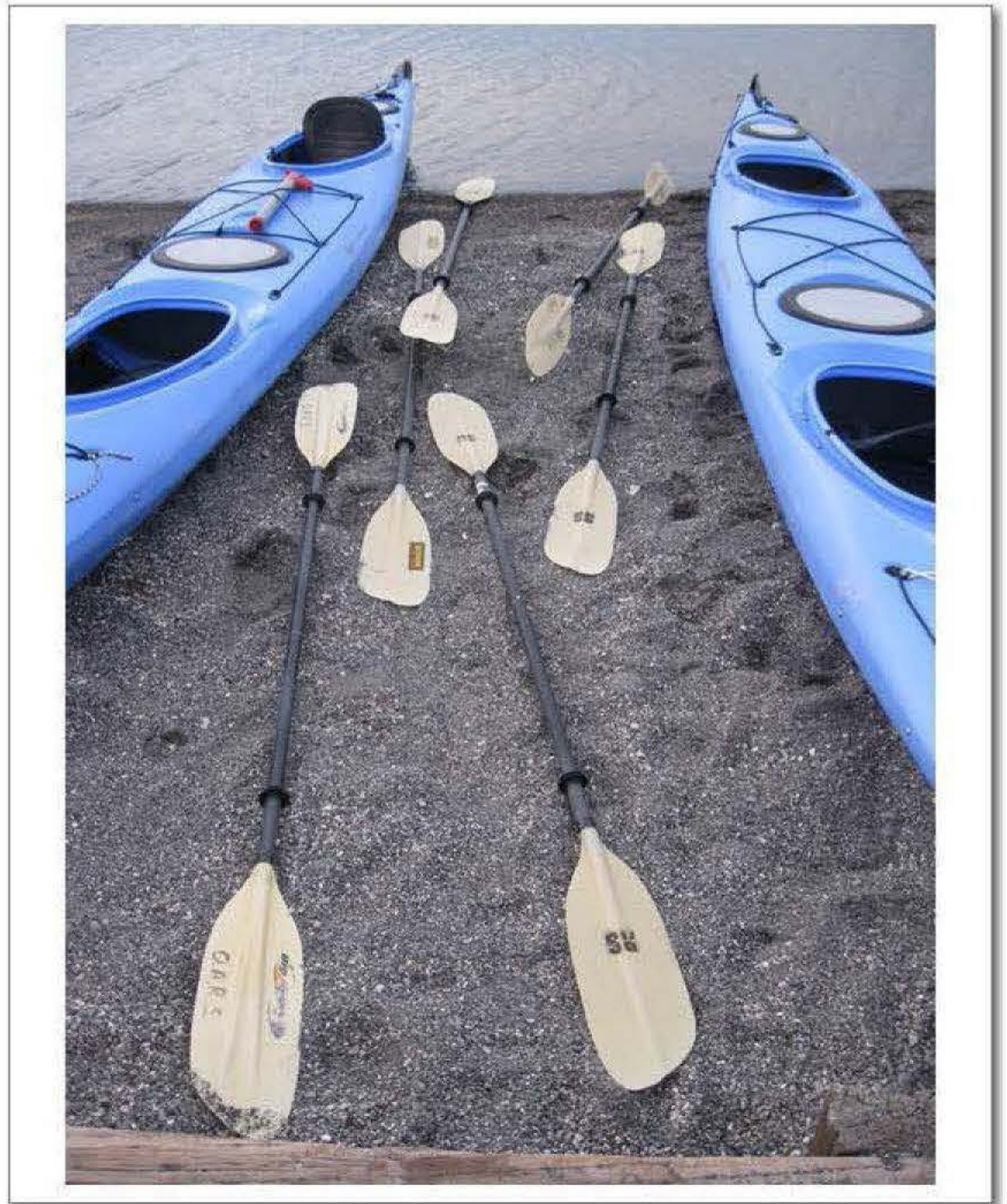
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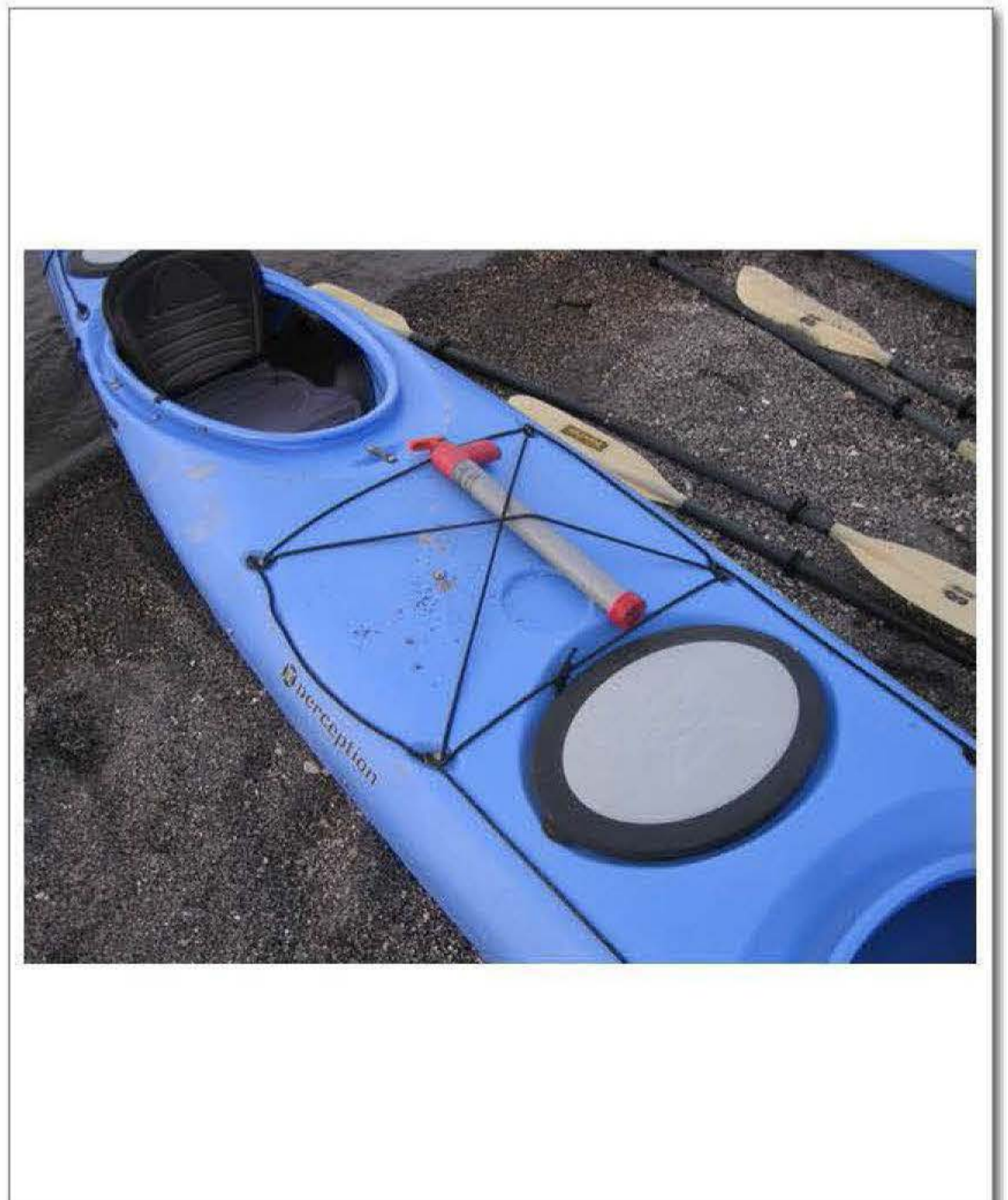
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IMG_0103



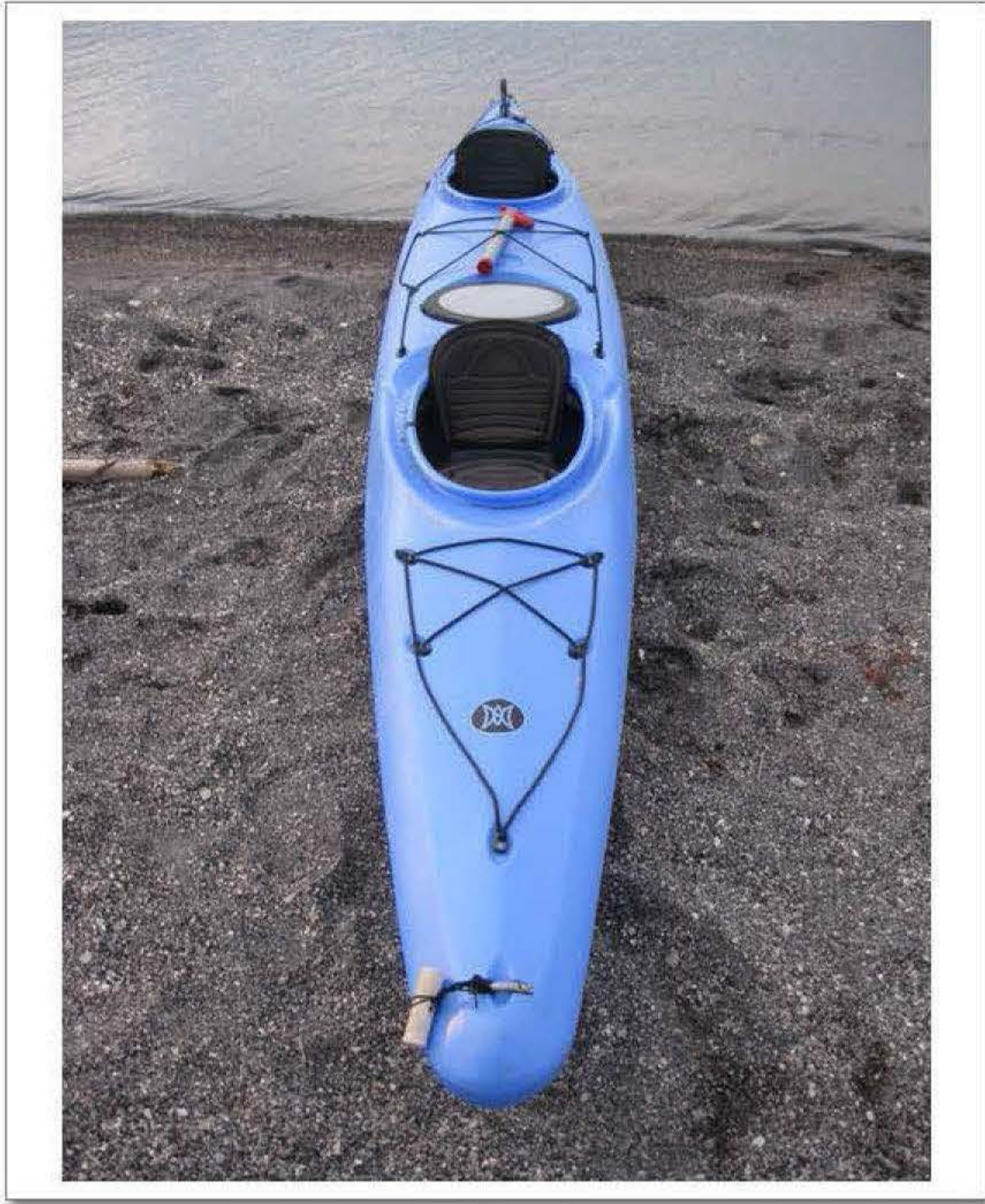
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IMG_0115



IMG_0116



IMG_0117



IMG_0118



IMG_0119



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IMG_0123



IMG_0124



IMG_0125



IMG_0126



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IMG_0128



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IMG_0137



IMG_0138

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Case Title	Oars Fatality	Case Number	NP17079324
Location	Yellowstone Lake	Report Date	6/14/2017
Report Subject Photos of Kayaks that were used that day			

PHOTOGRAPHY LOG



Camera:		Canon NP1200116965
Photographer:		Justin Brearley
Date of Photos:		6/14/2017
Time of Photos:		Approximately 9:20 pm
Location of Photos:		Grant Marina
#	Image # or ID	Description of Photo Subject
1	IMG_0071	Boats lined up on shore after incident
2	IMG_0072	Boats lined up on shore after incident
3	IMG_0073	Side front of kayak #11
4	IMG_0074	Overview of kayak #11 showing a throw rope
5	IMG_0075	Behind the seat of kayak #11
6	IMG_0076	Foot well of kayak #11
7	IMG_0077	Kayak #11 identifier
8	IMG_0078	kayak #9 overview
9	IMG_0079	kayak #9 footwell
10	IMG_0080	kayak #9 compartment overview
11	IMG_0081	kayak #9 identifier
12	IMG_0082	kayak #7 overview
13	IMG_0083	kayak#7 paddle float behind the seat
14	IMG_0084	kayak #7 footwell with water pump
15	IMG_0085	kayak #7 identifier
16	IMG_0086	kayak #8 overview double kayak
17	IMG_0087	kayak #8 back compartment with water pump inside and one attached to straps
18	IMG_0088	kayak #8 behind the seat of back compartment
19	IMG_0089	kayak#8 front compartment overview
20	IMG_0090	kayak #8 front compartment behind the seat
21	IMG_0091	kayak #8 identifier
22	IMG_0092	double kayak #2 overview
23	IMG_0093	double kayak #2 front compartment footwell
24	IMG_0094	double kayak #2 front compartment overview

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25	IMG_0095	double kayak #2 back compartment footwell
26	IMG_0096	double kayak #2 back compartment overview
27	IMG_0097	double kayak #2 identifier
28	IMG_0098	Overview of the paddles used
29	IMG_0099	double kayak #1 overview
30	IMG_0100	double kayak #1 frontcompartment footwell
31	IMG_0101	double kayak #1 front compartment overview
32	IMG_0102	double kayak #1 middle straps with water pump
33	IMG_0103	double kayak #1 back compartment footwell
34	IMG_0104	double kayak #1 back compartment overview
35	IMG_0105	double kayak #1 identifier
36	IMG_0106	double kayak #1 "Needs 1 push rivet on back seat" taped on the stern of the kayak
37	IMG_0107	double kayak #14 overview
38	IMG_0108	double kayak #14 front compartment footwell
39	IMG_0109	double kayak #14 front compartment overview
40	IMG_0110	double kayak #14 front compartment behind seat
41	IMG_0111	double kayak #14 middle straps with water pump
42	IMG_0112	double kayak #14 back compartment footwell
43	IMG_0113	double kayak #14 back compatment overview
44	IMG_0114	double kayak #14 identifier
45	IMG_0115	Life jackets overview
46	IMG_0116	Life jackets overview
47	IMG_0117	Front of Life jackets
48	IMG_0118	Front of Life jackets
49	IMG_0119	Front of Life jackets
50	IMG_0120	Front of Life jackets
51	IMG_0121	Front of Life jackets
52	IMG_0122	Front of Life jackets
53	IMG_0123	Back of Life jackets
54	IMG_0124	Back of Life jackets
55	IMG_0125	Back of Life jackets
56	IMG_0126	Back of Life jackets
57	IMG_0127	Back of Life jackets
58	IMG_0128	Back of Life jackets
59	IMG_0129	Back of Life jackets
60	IMG_0130	Spare water pump

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61	IMG_0131	Kayak overview from East side
62	IMG_0132	Conant's Life jacket front
63	IMG_0133	Conant's Life jacket front close-up
64	IMG_0134	Conant's Life jacket inside of front panel
65	IMG_0135	Conant's Life jacket inside of back panel
66	IMG_0136	Conant's Life jacket back panel
67	IMG_0137	Conant's Life jacket cut strap
68	IMG_0138	Conant's Life jacket overview

gc 11 boats

3 Guide S12 Command 1800

S35, S14 Eagle

S31 Grant 1

S36, S37 - Avail

S32 -

S12 -

L36, B37

Warwood -

1 PT -
BIS - PT 30 min
cold

OARS RAY
1820