



DODGE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Dale J Schmidt Sheriff Scott Smith Chief Deputy

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: 05-04-2017

Sheriff Dale J Schmidt

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PRESS RELEASE – AIR BOAT CRASH

On 05-04-2017 at 11:08 PM, the Dodge County Sheriff's Office responded to air boat crash on the flooded portion of the Beaver Dam River, north of the Ranch Road boat launch in the Township of Shields.

Preliminary investigation shows that Erik Joost (23 years old from Waukesha, WI) was operating a 2006 air boat when it struck a tree. Erik was ejected and sustained minor injuries. Zachary Azmani (24 years old from Hales Corners, WI) was ejected and sustained serious but non-life threatening injuries. Ian Wolfe (27 years old from West Allis, WI) was ejected and sustained serious but non-life threatening injuries. A fourth passenger Robert Krueger (24 years old from Waukesha, WI) was uninjured in the crash. The occupants were able to get back into the boat and drive it to the boat launch. Responders met them there and began treatment.

Azmani was transported by Watertown Paramedics to Aurora Summit Hospital in Oconomowoc. Wolfe was transported by Waterloo EMS to Aurora Summit Hospital. Speed and low visibility appear to be factors in the crash.

Assisting at the scene were Watertown Paramedics, Watertown Fire Department, Waterloo EMS, and Dodge County Sheriff's Office.

The crash remains under investigation by the Dodge County Recreation Patrol and the Wisconsin DNR. Additional information can be obtained by contacting Sheriff Dale J Schmidt.