



# SHERIFF KOOTENAI COUNTY



SHERIFF **BEN WOLFINGER**

UNDERSHERIFF **DAN MATTOS**

Media Release  
March 17, 2018

## **KCSO, NLFD, AND CDAFD DIVE TEAMS RESCUE TWO TEENAGERS IN WATER WHO HAD FALLEN THROUGH ICE**

**Hayden Lake, ID-** On March 17<sup>th</sup>, 2018 at approximately 4:45 P.M., a call was received for two teenagers who had fallen through the ice on Avondale Lake in Hayden Lake, ID.

Northern Lakes Fire and Rescue, Coeur d'Alene Fire and Rescue, and the Kootenai County Sheriff's Office all responded. Two juveniles were observed in the water where they had broken through the ice several hundred yards away from the shore. One juvenile was able to crawl back up onto the ice and was attempting to hold the other juvenile up who was clinging to the ice.

Dive and rescue team member from the three agencies immediately deployed and traversed the ice. With thin ice covered in slush, dive team members fought through the ice to reach the juveniles. Dive members were able to rescue the two teenagers and pull them safely to shore. Members of the community also assisted in helping pull the two teenagers to safety.

Both teenagers were transported to Kootenai Health with severe hypothermia and medical issues from submersion in the water. The teenager's family members have been contacted.

The Kootenai County Sheriff's Office want to remind everyone that with temperatures increasing, ice on our local lakes is becoming dangerously thin and fragile. Always wear a personal floatation device when recreating near the water.

Ben Wolfinger, Sheriff  
By: Sgt. Mark Ellis  
18-10970