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The Spokesman-Review
Spokane, Wash./Coeur d'Alene, Idaho

Man rescued on snowy road

A Spokane man out looking for quartz became stranded when his car bogged down on a snowmobile trail in the Priest Lake area and was rescued by a Bonner County Sheriff's Office search and rescue team Sunday afternoon.

The sheriff's office reported Richard McElroy spent Saturday night in his car and was dehydrated and cold when searchers on snowmobiles found him at 4 p.m. Sunday near the Idaho-Washington border on a Forest Service road that had been groomed as a snowmobile trail.

McElroy was taken to an ambulance at the trailhead, where he was treated and released.

He was the third motorist since January found stranded on snowmobile trails in the Priest Lake area. Sheriff's officials warn it is illegal to drive a wheeled vehicle on groomed snowmobile trails.