

## **Coast Guard rescues stranded hikers in Olympic National Park**

### **Local News**

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Posted on : August 8, 2013 at 5:45 am

SEATTLE—Two Coast Guard helicopter crews from separate units worked together to rescue two injured hikers who had fallen approximately 50 feet into a ravine in Olympic National Park, approximately 30 miles south of Port Angeles, Wash., Wednesday. Coast Guard Sector Puget Sound received notification at approximately 7:30 a.m. that a personal locator beacon had been activated near the center of the park. At the time, there was believed to be a single hiker stranded. The 19-year-old male hiker was able to establish communications with Olympic National Park Rangers using a satellite phone. He expressed that he had fallen into a ravine and his condition was deteriorating. Rangers determined that rescue crews would have to hike approximately 12 miles to reach the stranded hiker.

Olympic National Park, through the Air Force Rescue Coordination Center, requested the Coast Guard medically evacuate the hiker just before 11 a.m. A Coast Guard MH-65 Dolphin helicopter crew was launched from Air Station Port Angeles, Wash., at approximately 12:09 p.m. Another Coast Guard helicopter, an MH-60 Jayhawk from Coast Guard Air Station Astoria, Ore., was conducting aids to navigation in the vicinity of Port Ludlow, Wash. The crew was diverted to assist in the rescue, if needed, and act as a communications platform. The Dolphin helicopter crew arrived on scene and lowered a rescue swimmer and a litter to transport the patient. It was then discovered by the crew that a second hiker, who had sustained minor injuries, was also in the ravine. Both hikers were hoisted by the Dolphin crew and transported to Air Station Port Angeles. They were then taken by ambulance to the Olympic Memorial Hospital in Port Angeles. Their conditions are unknown. Olympic National Park personnel assisted in the rescue.