

Ravalli County Sheriff's Office
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Chris Hoffman, Sheriff

Stephen Holton, Undersheriff

*****Special Press Release March 31, 2015*****

Sheriff Chris Hoffman has verified the identity of a Bitterroot Valley man who drowned on the Bitterroot River on Wednesday, March 25th.

Hoffman said that 73 year old **Jeffrey L. Benjamin** of Conner was pulled from the river by Ravalli County Search and Rescue members just north of the Victor bridge, but was pronounced dead at the scene by a Ravalli County Deputy Coroner.

Mr. Benjamin had been floating the river with two other individuals when they encountered a stump. The boat flipped dumping all three men into the water, in the stretch between Tucker Crossing and Victor Crossing. The two other men were able to reach the shore but Mr. Benjamin was taken down stream by the current.