

SUTTON

Lost elderly man found by searchers

An 82-year-old man who appears to be in the beginning stages of Alzheimer's disease was lost for about five hours yesterday afternoon, until being found on a trail, the state Fish and Game Department said yesterday.

Thaddeus Johnson of Sutton was "very cold and disoriented" but otherwise okay when found about 5 p.m. by a Fish and Game conservation officer, said Sgt. Brian Suttmeier of the state Fish and Game Department.

Suttmeier said conservation officers received a call from Johnson's wife about noon. She told authorities that Johnson took off ahead of her as the two were hiking and did not show up at their rendezvous point, Suttmeier said.

About 50 searchers from New Hampshire Fish and Game, Sutton police, Sutton fire and New England K-9 Search and Rescue participated in the search. State police provided the helicopter and a police dog.

He was found about 5 p.m., about three-quarters a mile from his home.

Johnson was on a trail he cut himself from the woodlands he owns.