

Elderly Angler Found after Intensive Search

An elderly fisherman with Parkinson's Disease was found in relatively good health after a four-hour land and air search in the Second College Grant on Friday night. Sgt. Chip Joseph of the N.H. Fish and Game said Frederick Appleton, 72, of Hanover, was "a little wet and tired," but was checked out by Errol Rescue personnel and did not require transport.

Mr. Appleton had reportedly been staying at one of the college's cabins with some friends, one of whom dropped him off around 9:30 a.m. to fish along the Dead Diamond River. They planned to meet two hours later but he was not there when the friend returned, Sgt. Joseph said, and he gave him "a couple more hours" before gathering the rest of the fishing party for a search.

Fish and Game was alerted around 5:45 p.m., and organized a search with several Conser-

vation Officers and N.H. State Police. Lorraine Turner, the maintenance supervisor for the College Grant, assisted in the search on a four-wheeler. The State Police helicopter arrived around 9:30 p.m., Sgt. Joseph said, and searched for about four hours with a spotlight.

Within an hour after the New England Canine Search and Rescue Team's arrival, one of its teams found Mr. Appleton at 1:35 a.m. "He had gotten into an area where he couldn't continue," Sgt. Joseph said. "He actually slept for a few hours." He said he could hear people calling and tried to respond, the sergeant said, but couldn't generate enough volume to be heard.

Sgt. Joseph explained that New England Canine is a volunteer organization drawing search and rescue dog teams from all over the region. He also said nighttime is optimal for a canine search in the woods, as

there generally are fewer people around to distract the dogs.

—Karen Ladd