



# KITSAP COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

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**News**

**For immediate release:**  
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**Thursday, July 11, 2019**

## *Hood Point area, Seabeck*

### **Body recovered from Hood Canal waters**

**SEABECK, Wash.** -- The body of a Tacoma man was found floating this afternoon in the waters of the Hood Canal after he had been reported missing.

The Kitsap County Coroner has identified the man as Douglas William Gant, age 77.

Kitsap 911 initially received a call at 11:43 a.m. from a resident of Frenchmans Cove Lane NW, Seabeck, concerning a rowboat that was adrift on the canal. A vessel registration check returned that Mr. Gant was the owner of the boat.

Kitsap County Sheriff's deputies next responded to a residence in the 19900 block of Hood Point Road NW, for a welfare check of Mr. Gant that was requested by family members via Coast Guard Sector Puget Sound. Deputies arrived at the cabin at approximately 12:30 p.m. to find it unoccupied. The on-scene sheriff's watch sergeant requested Coast Guard helicopter support to provide airborne search capability.

Mr. Gant's family advised that he would use the rowboat to row out to his Campion Sport Utility Boat that was moored to a buoy off-shore.

Within the next hour patrol vessels from Central Kitsap Fire and Rescue, Jefferson County Sheriff's Office, Kitsap County Sheriff's Office, Mason County Sheriff's Office and the U. S. Coast Guard responded to render waterborne search assistance.

A unified command was established at the Seabeck Boat Launch off Miami Beach Road NW in Seabeck to coordinate the search and rescue mission.

At approximately 2:20 p.m. the incident commander was advised of a body that was seen floating in the Hood Canal by civilians aboard a passing sailboat.

Central Kitsap Fire and Rescue's Boat #51, with assistance from a Jefferson County Sheriff's Office patrol boat, recovered Mr. Gant and returned him to the boat launch where he was handed over into the care of the Kitsap County Coroner's Office.

The county's forensic pathologist will conduct an autopsy on Monday. The Kitsap County Coroner will determine findings concerning the cause of manner of death.

The Kitsap County Sheriff's Office does not suspect any criminal actions are involved in the death of Mr. Gant.



On Hood Canal waters, July 11: Central Kitsap Fire & Rescue firefighters aboard their 20' Sealegs RIB Amphibious Craft, foreground, confer with a sheriff's deputy aboard *Integrity*, a Jefferson County Sheriff's Office 24' Swiftsure Aluminum patrol boat, during a waterborne search for a missing 77-year-old man from Tacoma.

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