For Immediate Release

Media Release

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Incident: 18C22944

Sex Offender Arrested by Animal Control Officer After Going Through the River

Yakima – On December 20, 2018, at 09:00 am, a Yakima County Sheriff's Office Animal Control Officer(ACO) arrested a man with a felony warrant after the man attempted to evade law enforcement by crossing the Naches River.

Our office received a call earlier in the morning to the 8600 block of Cowiche Canyon Rd for a report of a man behind a residence. We were unable to locate the man during the hours of darkness. It should be noted that the Yakima Police Department had been in a pursuit in the area a couple hours previous and were unable to locate the male driver.

We were called to the 4800 block of S Naches Rd for a report of a "creepy" looking man wearing black sweats and a black hoody. Deputies responded and spotted the man at the far end of Eschbach Park. The man ran from deputies, jumped into the Naches River, crossed the river, and exited near the water treatment plant on Hwy 12.

Our ACO was near the treatment plant and observed the man. The Tieton Police Chief, Washington State Patrol Troopers, Yakima Police Officers, and our deputies quickly arrived on scene. A short foot pursuit ensued and the man was arrested by our ACO, the Tieton Chief, and a Trooper.

The 56-year-old Yakima man was identified as Kurt Dean Bonser. He was booked into the Yakima County Jail on his felony warrant for failing to register as a sex offender.

Our office would like to thank the Tieton Police Department, the Washington State Patrol, and the Yakima Police Department for their assistance. Bonser sustained a cut to his hand after jumping a barb wire fence. No injuries were reported by law enforcement officers.