



# Incident Information

Office of Public Affairs & Education

Date:	6-07-11	Adults Injured:	0
Time Call Received:	2016 hours	Minors Injured:	0
Incident Type:	River Rescue	Civilian Fatalities:	0
Address/Location:	912 Wood St.	Civilians Rescued:	0
Incident No:	11-7229	Firefighter Injuries:	1
Occupancy Name:	N/A	Firefighter Fatalities:	0
Occupancy / # Units	N/A	Pet / Animal Fatalities/ Injuries:	0
1 <sup>st</sup> In Company:	Tower 1	Assisting Agencies:	Larimer County Sheriff's Office Emergency Services, Poudre Valley Hospital Ambulance
Battalion:	1	Incident Control Time:	N/AV
Dollar Loss:	N/A	Incident Duration:	N/AV
Dollars Saved:	N/A	Total # Alarms:	1+ Special call
Displaced/Evacuated:	0	Total # Personnel	21+
Origin:	N/A	Incident Commander:	R. Callahan
Cause:	N/A	Submitted by:	Patrick Love 1015 hours

Engines	Ladder Trucks	Brush Engines	Rescues	Ambulances	Water Tenders	Command Units	Investigators
4	2	0	0	2	0	1	0

Fort Collins, CO- Poudre Fire Authority and Larimer County Sheriff's Office Emergency Services responded to a report of a male subject stuck on an island in the Cache La Poudre River in north Fort Collins last night. Witnesses also reported the male was in waist deep water and hanging onto trees. When firefighters arrived they could not find anyone in the river. After conferring with the witnesses, Rescue Swimmers were deployed to perform a search in order to locate the possible victim. During the operation one PFA Rescue Swimmer was caught in a "strainer." Another firefighter observed the event from shore and summoned additional rescuers. By the time they were able to get to the Rescue Swimmer the force of the water was pushing his body downstream and his head under water. It took approximately ten firefighters to rescue the swimmer and bring him safely to shore. The firefighter was evaluated on scene and released.

Firefighters come across dangerous situations on a daily basis; however in this situation they were relying what was found to be erroneous information from reporting witnesses. This time it almost cost a firefighter his life. If you have to report an incident such as this please make sure to accurately mark your location and the last seen location of the victim. Agencies encourage the immediate reporting of any emergency situation by dialing 911; however when doing so please try to be as accurate as possible.

Poudre Fire Authority urges everyone to please use the utmost caution around any body of water, but especially moving water and areas that are experiencing increased flows. And, please only use the river if you are experienced, or are with someone who is, and have the proper gear and safety equipment.

Strainers are formed when an object blocks the passage of larger objects but allows the flow of water to continue. These objects could be items such as submerged or partially submerged trees, rocks, fences or many other things.

###