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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: August 1, 2011

Rafting Accident in Sweet Grass County

Update and Name Release

At 14:25 on July 29th, Sheldon Goldberg, 60, of Prince Fredrick, MD, originally from Washington D.C., was found on the Boulder River after a raft that he was traveling in capsized on July 28th. The raft was carrying two other occupants at the time also. The female occupant was able to make it to land and call for help. Chester Marion, 73, of Livingston, was found deceased on the 28th, approximately 3 miles east of where the Boulder River meets the Yellowstone River.

Both men were wearing chest waders and neither of them was wearing a life jacket when the raft hit a group of Cotton Wood trees in the river.

The search, that lasted 24 hours, consisted of many agencies from around the state: Sweet Grass County Sheriff, Sweet Grass County Search and Rescue, Montana Highway Patrol, Fish, Wildlife, and Parks, and Yellowstone Air Service along with help from, Bozeman Search and Rescue, and the U.S. Water Rescue Dive Team.

Sweet Grass County would like to send out their condolences to the families of these two gentlemen.

We would also like to issue an advisory for the upcoming Boat Float weekend. The Yellowstone River is hazardous with many channel changes and many debris locations due to our recent flooding in Sweet Grass County. Floaters are advised to wear their life jackets at all times and take extreme precautions to these changes.

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