Del Norte Triplicate

NEWS

Man falls to death from cliff into ocean after branch breaks

September 29, 2020

OREGON COAST — A Seaside man has died after falling from a cliff on the northern Oregon coast in Tillamook County.

On Sunday, Sept. 27, at approximately 1:48 p.m., Oregon State Police troopers and emergency personnel responded to a person who fell from a cliff, into the ocean, at Devil's Cauldron trail in Oswald West State Park.

Preliminary investigation revealed two people walked down the Devil’s Cauldron trail to take a photograph at a cliff side viewpoint, according to a press release from Oregon State Police. Steven Gastelum, 43, of Seaside, climbed a tree on the cliff’s edge to pose for a photograph. A limb broke, on the tree, causing him to fall approximately 100 feet into the ocean.

A U.S. Coast Guard helicopter and Nehalem Bay Fire Department jet skis assisted in locating Gastelum and bringing him to shore.

Gastelum was transported to Tillamook Regional Medical Center by ambulance where he was pronounced deceased, stated the release.