

# Springfield News-Leader

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Three people drowned in two separate incidents over the weekend on Shoal Creek in Newton County, according to reports from the Missouri State Highway Patrol.

The first incident occurred Friday at about 1:30 p.m. near the Lime Klin Access.

The report says Juan Santellano, 27, of Neosho, was wading in the creek toward the dam when he lost his footing, got caught in the undercurrent and disappeared, the report says.

Danni Lopez, 35, also of Neosho, jumped in to try to save Santellano but he also got caught by the undercurrent, the report says.

Both men were swept downstream where their bodies resurfaced, according to the report.

The second incident occurred Saturday at about 5:30 p.m. four miles west of Reddings Mill.

The report says a kayak struck a submerged log, overturned and pinned a 5-year-old occupant under water, the report says.

The 5-year-old, Anthony J. Martinez of Webb City, was taken by helicopter to a Joplin hospital where he was pronounced dead, the report says.

He was wearing a life jacket, the report says.