

# Search continues for man who fell in river

**BY NICOLE BROOKS**

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**MARTINSVILLE** — State conservation officers will continue to search for the body of a man who drowned Monday afternoon in the White River in Morgan County.

Romulo Francisco Perez Ralda, 23, was fishing with friends in the White River at Three Rivers Public Access Site, three miles north of Martinsville on Ind. 67.

He slipped off a dam and drowned about 5:30 p.m. Monday, according to conservation officer Angela Goldman.

"Before the current swept him away from the dam he tried to climb back on but was unable to do so. One of the other fishermen at the dam jumped in the water to try to save him but was unable to get Mr. Perez Ralda back to the dam," Goldman stated in a news release.

Conservation officers and the Brown Township Water Rescue Team searched under the water using probes and side scan sonar equipment until 11 p.m. Monday. Due to the swift current, the search was unsuccessful, Goldman stated.

Today's rainy weather has suspended the search.

The river will continue to be monitored until Ralda's body is found, Goldman said.

Conservation officer David Reese is leading the investigation. He was assisted at the scene by the water rescue team, Morgan County Sheriff's Department and Indiana State Police.

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