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One man dies after crews pull him from Lehigh River

Jeremy Deemer, 26, died in hospital after kayak capsized

69 News

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Empty kayak floats on the Lehigh River Wednesday afternoon



Rescue crews pulled two kayakers out of the Lehigh River in the Easton area Wednesday afternoon, but one of the men was later pronounced dead.

According to Northampton County Coroner Zach Lysek, Jeremy Deemer, 26, of Forks Township, was the operator of a kayak that he steered to go over the dam in the Lehigh River. The kayak capsized and he drowned.

Crews tried to resuscitate Deemer, but he later died at Easton Hospital. The cause of death is drowning and the manner is accidental, according to Lysek.

The other kayaker was transported to St. Luke's Hospital Fountain Hill location. The extent of that person's injuries are unknown.

Easton Police report the coroner was called to the hospital when rescue crews were not able to resuscitate one of the victims.

According to emergency communication officials, crews responded to reports of a person or persons floating in the river in Glendon, near Burger Road and Hugh Moore Park.

One person was floating face down. That person was unresponsive when crews pulled him out of the water.

Emergency officials received the reports around 1:45 p.m. Wednesday.

Witnesses tell Channel 69 News that two males were kayaking near the dam.

As they approached the dam, one of them got out and carried his kayak around and below the dam.

The other male either tried to go over the dam or got too close and was pulled over.

Nearby workers heard someone yelling for help. They saw one kayaker trying to throw a rope the one who was in trouble.

When the kayaker couldn't reach his companion, he got back in his kayak and tried to go back upstream to get to him, but also got caught up in the flow over the dam.

He was tossed around for several minutes before he came free of the dam current and was rescued by the workers who heard him yelling.