For Immediate Release Contacts: Gerry Blair 928-226-5089 Date: February 11, 2007

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## Three Stranded Hikers Rescued on Mt. Elden

Flagstaff, AZ- At approximately 3:00pm on Sunday, February 11 the Coconino County Sheriff's Office received a call from a party of three hikers on Mt. Elden who had become stranded at a dry waterfall. The three adult male hikers were descending cross country on Mt. Elden when they came to the top of a dry waterfall that had an approximate 80 foot drop off. The group could not climb up due to the steep terrain and became stranded. The Coconino County Sheriff's Search and Rescue Unit responded and conducted a rescue. The three hikers were extricated from their position and escorted to the trailhead on Skyline Road. The rescuers and the hikers were back at the trailhead by 6:30pm. All three hikers were in good condition and refused medical treatment.

The Coconino County Sheriff's Search and Rescue Unit reminds hikers to be cautious when hiking cross country on Mt. Elden due to terrain hazards. Additionally hikers setting out for just a day hike should carry a backpack with food, water, extra clothing, a headlamp, and basic survival kit. These items are important in the event that they do become stranded or injured and the day hike turns into a survival situation, or the hike turns out to be longer than they expected, or the weather changes as is often the case in the mountains.

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