

**For Immediate Release
April 26, 2010
Contact: Sgt. Christie Wood
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To: Media

Chief Wayne M. Longo

Coeur d'Alene Police Department
We serve with pride, dedication, and excellence

Coeur d'Alene Police detectives interviewed Neil and Connie Bigelow after they returned to the Coeur d'Alene residence of their grandchildren this morning. Neil stated they took a drive to the Hayden Creek area, and his vehicle became high-centered in the snow near the top of road 206. Neil said it was near dark, and he was not sure how far they were from Coeur d'Alene. They decided to wait out the night in the vehicle. Connie Bigelow sang songs with the children and helped them draw pictures.

At daybreak they were able to dig themselves out and drive back to Coeur d'Alene. Detectives reported the children are in good condition and happy to be home.

The Police Department shares in the relief that the family is home safe. Chief Wayne Longo reminded travelers to prepare for harsh conditions in the mountains this time of year. "There is still snow and mud on forest service roads. Travelers should prepare for emergencies and maintain emergency supplies in their vehicles at all times" said Longo. Travelers are also advised to notify a family member or friend of their destination in case they become lost or stranded. The Police Department would like to thank Kootenai County Search and Rescue for their immediate response.

**Sergeant Christie Wood
Public Information Officer
Coeur d'Alene Police Department**