



# SHERIFF KOOTENAI COUNTY



SHERIFF **BEN WOLFINGER**

UNDERSHERIFF **DAN MATTOS**

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## Media Release December 10, 2014

On December 10, 2014 at about 2:15 pm, the Kootenai County Sheriff's Office received a report of an airplane crash off US Highway 95 near Whitlaw Road, about 10 miles south of Coeur d'Alene.

The caller said she was traveling on US 95 when she witnessed an airplane crash land on the east side of the highway.

Once deputies arrived on scene, they found the pilot, Ronald Tacheny 80 years old of Coeur d'Alene, walking near the airplane. Tacheny said he was not injured and described the crash as a "rough landing." Deputies found that as Tacheny was landing his experimental bi-plane on his private landing strip, he misjudged the terrain and the left wheel struck the soft dirt, breaking the wheel assembly. The plane then traveled a short distance where the left wing struck a bush and spun the plane to a stop. Tacheny said he wasn't injured in the crash.

Tacheny said he built the airplane about 14 years ago and has been flying for more than 40 years.

The FAA was contacted and given the information, but due to the minor damage and circumstances would most likely not be responding.

Ben Wolfinger, Sheriff  
By: Lieutenant Stu Miller