**WASHINGTON STATE PATROL**
**WSP**

**Office of the Chief**
Chief John R. Batiste
www.wsp.wa.gov

**\*\*\*For Immediate Release\*\*\***

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Government and Media Relations

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### WSP Trooper rescues man from boat that ran aground in Port Townsend

**PORT TOWNSEND** – A Washington State Patrol (WSP) trooper rescued a man from a sailboat that ran aground on a sand bar in Port Townsend Wednesday night.

The 30-foot sailboat was reported in distress after 8 p.m. Wednesday at Point Hudson. WSP, Port Townsend Police Department (PTPD) and East Jefferson County Fire and Rescue units responded, observing a sailboat 150 yards from shore, leaning on its side with sails partially in the water. It was low tide when units arrived.

Responders observed a man aboard the sailboat and called out to him, but received no response.

WSP Trooper Jamieson Hodgson waded into the knee deep water to contact the man on the vessel. Trooper Hodgson found the 40-year-old wet, partially clothed and shivering inside the cabin.

The man stated he was taking the boat on its maiden voyage prior to running aground. The man stated he tried to make it to shore aboard a dingy, but it capsized, causing him to fall into the water. The man climbed back onto the sailboat where he remained until contacted by Trooper Hodgson.

Trooper Hodgson secured the vessel and escorted the man back to shore where he was evaluated by aid crews, who later provided a courtesy ride to the American Legion.

*District 8 serves Clallam, Grays Harbor, Jefferson, Kitsap, Mason, Pacific and Wahkiakum counties.*

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