

**For Immediate Release  
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## **SEARCH FOR CESSNA TOPS BUSY WEEKEND AT SNOWY HYDRO SOUTHCARE**

Snowy Hydro SouthCare is working together with the Australian Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA) and 21 other aircraft in search of the twin-engine Cessna 337 Skymaster that went missing Saturday. The plane was flown by experienced pilot and businessman Geoff Milne and carried his wife, son and son's girlfriend on their trip from Melbourne to Merimbula.

The search is now focusing on the region between Orbost and Merimbula which includes the eastern tip of Victoria and the southeastern edge of New South Wales. The technique for scanning during search and rescue involves following a grid pattern at low level to make sure every section of the area is searched sufficiently.

The Orbost search is just one of many missions for Snowy Hydro SouthCare this weekend. Medical and aircrews began the busy weekend at 12:50 p.m. on Friday by transferring patients from Tumut and Wagga. Both patients were transferred to The Canberra Hospital after individually sustaining spinal injuries, one while painting and other falling from a ladder.

The Snowy Hydro SouthCare crews transferred a man from Wagga again on Saturday before winching a woman from a motor vehicle accident near Eden in the early hours of Sunday morning. The woman was stretcher-winched into the helicopter and taken to Pambula Hospital after the car she was in went over the edge of an embankment. Before heading back to Canberra at 10:00 a.m. for a crew change over, the Snowy Hydro SouthCare crews helped search for the missing Cessna.

The Snowy Hydro SouthCare Rescue Helicopter has continued to help with the Cessna search since Sunday morning, with crew members staying the night in Merrimbula so they could resume searches this morning. Today's search is centered around Orbost.

Contact: Wayne Evans, CEO  
Email: wjevansSHSC@bigpond.com  
Phone: (02) 6207-8375  
Fax: (02) 6207-9927

*Snowy Hydro SouthCare Helicopter Service was established in 1998 as the primary provider of aero-medical and rescue helicopter service in the Australian Capital Territory and southeastern New South Wales. Call 02-6207-8375 or visit [www.snowyhydrosouthcare.com.au](http://www.snowyhydrosouthcare.com.au) for more information.*