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PRESS RELEASE

3-20-2015

Rio Dell Police Respond to Suspected Water Theft

On Thursday March 19th Rio Dell Police arrested Mr. Darren Gallagher of Wildwood Avenue after an investigation into theft of utilities, specifically water resources. Water service at a Wildwood Avenue address had been previously terminated for non-payment and a lock was placed on the shut-off valve. On or around March 3rd, city staff discovered the lock had been tampered with and that water services had been unlawfully turned back on. Utility crews again disabled the water service. Yesterday, utility crews discovered that service had been reconnected using an unmetered pipe. Rio Dell Police initiated an investigation and Mr. Gallagher was arrested after questioning. A request for prosecution will be forwarded to the Humboldt County District Attorney's Office.

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