



Jan. 19, 2009
PR# 09-008

Search Continues near St. Mary's for Two Missing Snowmachiners

(ST. MARY'S, Alaska) – The search continues today for missing snowmachiners Rondy Lamont, 17, and Matalena Tinker, 14, both of Pitkas Point. On 1/15/09 at approximately 1:00 p.m., family members reported the teenagers missing. It was discovered on 1/15/09 that the pair left in the evening hours of 1/14/09 on a snowmachine headed from St. Mary's, located on the Andreafski River, to Pitkas Point, located on the Lower Yukon River. They were last seen by a friend at approximately 10:15 p.m. on 1/14/09. An initial search turned up fresh snowmachine tracks leading to a large open spot in the ice where the Andreafski River meets the Yukon River. It is suspected that both individuals have gone into the river with the snowmachine. The river at the point of the open lead is approximately 90 feet deep and has a swift current. Any where from 30 to 50 people have been involved in the search for the pair. Searchers are using ice picks, chain saws and ice augers to set hooks and nets to drag the river. Boat crews are dragging the open hole and other crews are busy drilling holes and trenches and setting nets farther downstream from the open lead.

Photos can be found on the [PIO Website](#).

St Mary's Search 1-19-09 Photo caption courtesy Alaska Wildlife Trooper Dan Dahl:
Numerous searchers in both boats and on shore comb the river for signs of two snowmachiners who are suspected of going into the river on a snowmachine late 1/14/09.