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UPDATED: Body may be French Gulch man

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FRENCH GULCH — A Shasta County coroner's investigator is examining a recovered body this morning that could be a 70-year-old French Gulch man who has been missing since Aug. 13, though an identification has yet to be made.

A spokesman for the sheriff's office said Monday that it was "reasonable to assume" that the body was that of Allen Maderas, the 70-year-old who went missing in French Gulch on Aug. 13, but that a positive identification must come from the coroner's office.

This morning, deputy coroner-investigator Mike Booth said his office has spoken with Maderas' wife and asked for more information on what he was wearing when he went missing and any other identifying information.

However, clothing was not found with the remains discovered just before 8 a.m. Saturday morning in French Gulch. That absence would not be unusual for the body of a man missing for about a month, Booth said.

An investigator was examining the found remains this morning and may have more answers by this afternoon, Booth said.

Meanwhile, the office continues searching for dental records and medical records, he said