Beat: News

RCMP Identify Missing Australian Woman

Hiking In Highlands National Park

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Brian MacKenzie-Teepell/USPA 24 News - ***Breaking News from RCMP and Reported By CBC. Interpreted by USPA 24 News*** RCMP in Cape Breton, Nova Scotia identify and are sharing information about an Australian hiker missing in the Highlands National Park.

RCMP identifies Denise Ann Williams, a 62-year-old Australian woman, as the individual missing in Cape Breton Highlands National Park since April 15th, 2026.

According to CBC News, the Nova Scotia RCMP have confirmed the identify of the Australian tourist who undertook an extraordinary adventure in Cape Breton Highlands National Park. Denise Ann Williams, 62, is believed to have embarked on a hiking excursion in the park, with her family last receiving communication from her on April 15th, and authorities are working diligently to facilitate her safe return.
According to the Parks Canada website,
the Acadian trail where the missing hiker was thought to be exploring, is an 8.4-kilometre loop rated as "moderate" difficulty.

Williams was described by police as five feet four inches tall, with greyish-blonde shoulder-length hair. Authorities stated that she was believed to be wearing a dark winter jacket, a powder blue tuque with "Antarctica" written on it, an orange and blue scarf, and glasses.

A Nissan Sentra, the vehicle she rented, was discovered at the Parks Canada Visitor Centre parking lot in Chéticamp, near the Acadian trailhead. Authorities state that she had indicated her intention to travel to Chéticamp, N.S. A report regarding her disappearance was received by the police on April 28th.

A robust team of responders, including Department of Natural Resources helicopters, the RCMP police dog service, multiple ground search and rescue teams, and Parks Canada, have joined forces to drive the search effort forward.

If you have any information about Williams' whereabouts in or around the Cape Breton Highlands National Parks, your contribution could be invaluable. Please contact the Inverness County District RCMP directly at 902-258-2213. Alternatively, you can share anonymous tips with Nova Scotia Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477).

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