

Authorities rescue 12-year-old boy trapped in mine

ASSOCIATED PRESS

CALIFORNIA CITY, Calif.

— A 12-year-old boy fell 200 feet down an abandoned mine Sunday and remained trapped for almost four hours before fire officials rescued him.

The boy emerged from the ordeal conscious and without major injuries, said Kern County Fire Capt. Tomas Patlan. He was airlifted to Loma Linda Medical Center.

"He was conscious and he helped us out a lot. He's a brave young man," Patlan said. The boy's name was not released.

The fire department was notified of the incident at 2:15 p.m. and succeeded in freeing the boy about 6 p.m.

Abandoned mines are common in the northern Kern County area where the boy fell, near the China Lake Naval Air Weapons Station north of Red Mountain.

2002 Twelve year old rescued after being trapped 4 hrs in abandoned mine

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