

Helicopter Crash Kills 2 in Siberia

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Boris Kavashkin / TASS

A gold mining cooperative helicopter crash has reportedly killed two people in Siberia's Irkutsk region some 6,300 kilometers east of Moscow.

The Robinson chopper presumably hit power lines and fell into a river near the town of Bodaybo, the regional Emergency Situations Ministry branch <u>said</u>. Rescuers spotted an oil stain near the shore, it said.

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"Two people died, their bodies are currently being recovered," the TASS news agency <u>quoted</u> a regional disaster center spokesperson as saying Monday.

The downed helicopter belonged to the Vitim gold mining cooperative, and had a pilot and an employee on board, according to the agency.

The salvage operation has been scheduled for Tuesday as soon as diving crews arrive from Irkutsk, Bodaybo mayor Yevgeny Yumashev <u>told</u> TASS.

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