



The paddler you have just rescued is very fortunate. Had you not been there to rescue him it's likely he would have drowned. Since he remained awake throughout the incident and was able to assist in his rescue, he has NOT suffered a near drowning and is in little to no danger of developing delayed pulmonary edema. Aside from being cold and a few cuts and scrapes he is okay. Get him out of his wet clothes and into dry clothes (yours) and a sleeping bag or two with hot water bottles until he warms up then thoroughly clean his wounds to prevent infection.

It makes sense to report the incident to the coast guard (especially if you can't find his kayak and gear) and help him arrange transportation home.

