

2018 END-OF-YEAR REVIEW &

RESCUE REPORT



DEAR FRIENDS AND SUPPORTERS

Teton County boasts some of the most magnificent and challenging terrain in the country and our community members take full advantage of this, which is awesome and inspiring. With our extensive backcountry use comes great responsibility for both the backcountry user and those charged with rescuing them.

Wyoming State Statute 18-3-609 (a) (iii) states: "Each county sheriff shall be the official responsible for coordination of all search and rescue operations within his jurisdiction." How each county sheriff interprets this statute is up to him/her. As the Teton County sheriff-elect, I bring this up because I feel strongly that Teton County leads the country in its interpretation of coordination of search and rescue operations.

Gone are the days of wrangling up a few willing deputies to drag someone out of the backcountry. Under the leadership of Sheriff Jim Whalen, Teton County has built one of the best possible responses to search and rescue incidents in the country. That response lies fully and completely with the incredible volunteers that make up the Teton County Search and Rescue team. Our volunteers give so much time and effort to being highly trained and mission ready. I would remiss if I did not restate the value that TCSAR members bring to our community. Aside from normal search and rescue efforts, TCSAR volunteers work closely with the TCSAR Foundation to provide outdoor education to our backcountry users through their Backcountry Zero initiative.

The future of Teton County Search and Rescue is clear: to excel at providing the best possible search and rescue response. It is my role as your newly elected Sheriff to support the Teton County Search and Rescue team in every endeavor. I'm honored to also be an operational member of the TCSAR team. Working with this amazing group is a lifelong dream and passion of mine. It has also given me a unique perspective on how the Teton County Sheriff's Office can best coordinate search and rescue operations.

I look forward to a fun and safe winter season.



Matt Carr
Teton County Sheriff-Elect

FOUNDATION BOARD MEMBERS

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NED JANNOTTA, VICE PRESIDENT

BILL HOGLUND, TREASURER

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JESSICA KING, TCSO SAR SUPERVISOR

CODY LOCKHART, TCSAR ADVISOR LIAISON

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FOUNDATION STAFF

STEPHANIE THOMAS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

AMY GOLIGHTLY, COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR

CASEY LEWIS, SAR TEAM & DONOR RELATIONS DIRECTOR

FROM
DECEMBER 1, 2017 - NOVEMBER 30, 2018

TCSAR VOLUNTEERS SPENT

10,872 HOURS

ON SAR RELATED ACTIVITIES

RESCUES = 4,779 HOURS

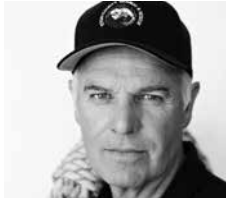
TRAINING = 5,279 HOURS

COMMUNITY EVENTS = 814 HOURS

TCSAR VOLUNTEER TEAM MEMBERS



KC BESS



TIM CIOCARLAN



RYAN COMBS



MICHAEL ESTES



PHILLIP FOX



ED FRIES



ERIC HELGOTH



TED KYLE



CHRIS LEIGH



ETHAN LOBDELL



CHASE LOCKHART



CODY LOCKHART



RYAN MERTAUGH



MIKE MOYER



ALEX NORTON



GALEN PARKE



KEEGAN PFEIL



JEN REDDY



TERRI ROMANOWSKI



ROBB SGROI



SCOTT SHERVIN



WILL SMITH



JENNIFER SPARKS



ALEX ST. CLAIR



ANTHONY STEVENS



CHRIS STIEHL



STEPHANIE THOMAS



PHIL (FLIP) TUCKER



DOUG VAN HOUTEN



CAROL VIAU



DON WATKINS



LIZZIE WATSON



AJ WHEELER



JON WIEDIE

TCSAR EMPLOYEES



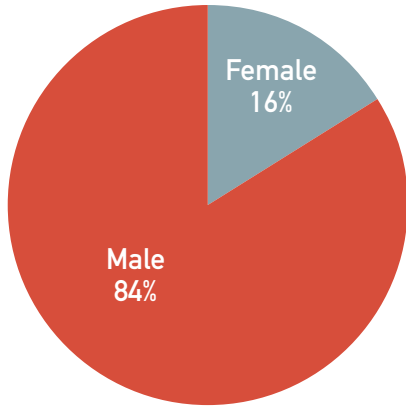
JESSICA KING
TCSO SAR SUPERVISOR



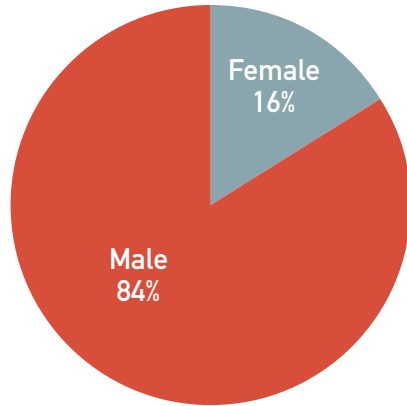
MATT CARR
TCSO SHERIFF-ELECT

INCIDENTS BY GENDER

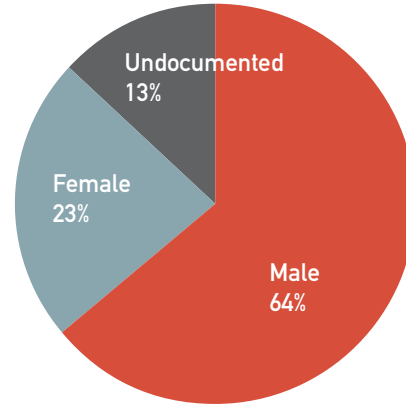
WINTER 2017/18



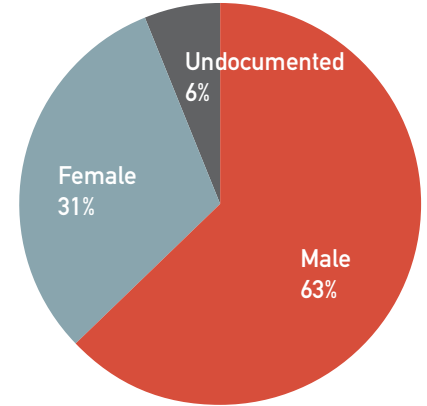
WINTER 10 YEAR AVG



SUMMER 2018

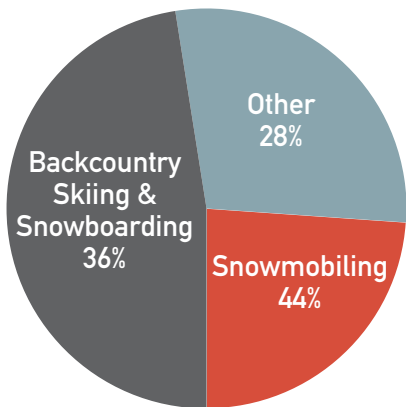


SUMMER 10 YEAR AVG

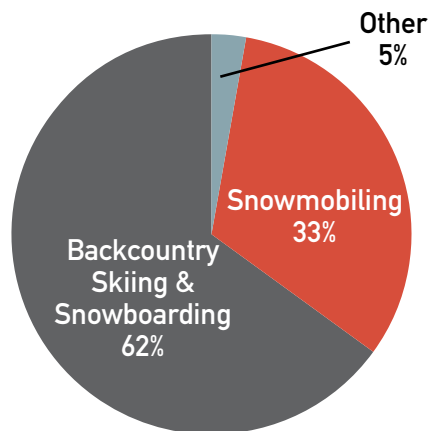


INCIDENTS BY ACTIVITY

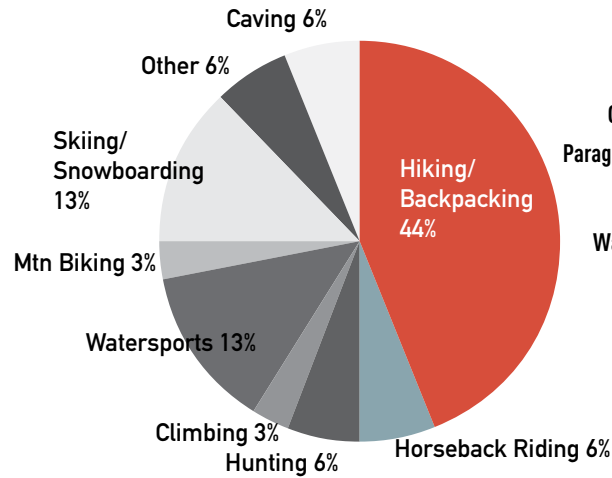
WINTER 2017/18



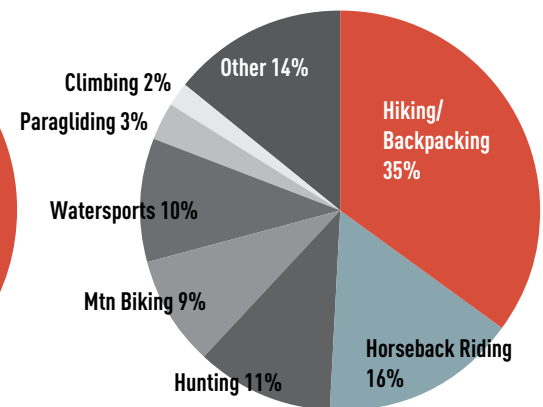
WINTER 10 YEAR AVG



SUMMER 2018



SUMMER 10 YEAR AVG



Summer 2018 RESCUE REVIEW

» JUNE

RESCUE Missing Person, Flat Creek Trailhead
DATE 06/01/2018
TIME 11:22am
DURATION 2 hours 53 minutes
ATTENDEES 10

WHAT HAPPENED? SAR BOA received a call about a missing 19 year old male, last seen near Flat Creek Trailhead. The Board of Advisors met at the hangar to plan a search of the area. Just after the board started planning, the missing male was located alive and well in Teton Village. SAR Team Members were stood down.

RESCUE Horseback Rider Fall, Granite Creek
DATE 06/06/2018
TIME 1:32pm
DURATION 9 hours 28 minutes
ATTENDEES 20

WHAT HAPPENED? SAR BOA received a call about a 67 year old male who fell off a horse, located above Granite Creek, about 1.5 miles west of Granite Hot Springs pool. SAR Team Members were assembled, and IC sent out three hasty teams. After the first hasty team reached the patient, a request for helicopter assistance was made. IC coordinated with TipTop to send a helicopter to evacuate the patient. By 7:45pm the first hasty team was en-route with the patient to rendezvous with Medic 20. The other two hasty teams hiked out.

RESCUE Reported Ankle Injury, Table Mountain
DATE 06/08/2018
TIME 1:33pm
DURATION 1 hour 6 minutes
ATTENDEES 6

WHAT HAPPENED? SAR BOA received a call about a possible broken ankle near Table Mountain. SAR Team Members were paged. The team called the reporting party to obtain more info. The reporting party stated that she was hiking the return trail from

Table Mountain and saw a man, believed to be approximately 20-30 years old, in need of help because he was “out of it”. Reporting party stated that she did not believe him to have a broken ankle. SAR team moved forward with the response in spite of fragmented information. The reporting party’s original call had reached Driggs Dispatch and they had sent a medic to the trailhead. At 1:55pm, IC received word that the man had self-rescued and was in the care of the Driggs medic. Follow up by the Teton County Sheriff Deputy indicated that the patient appeared to be intoxicated.

RESCUE Overturned Canoe in the Snake River
DATE 06/08/2018
TIME 7:33pm
DURATION 2 hours 37 minutes
ATTENDEES 20

WHAT HAPPENED? SAR BOA received word of an overturned canoe just north of Astoria Hot Springs. The reporting party reporting seeing a canoe flip at King’s Wave with one individual spotted clinging to the retaining wall on the east side of the river. An off-duty police officer was on scene within two minutes of the call, trying to spot the victim. SAR Team responded with two jet boats and a cataraft. The first jet boat put in at Astoria to search up river and the second jet boat put in at Pritchard to search up river from there. A search down to the county line was performed, but no victim spotted. Lincoln County dispatch was notified of Teton County search and rescue operations and to contact SAR if a canoe or individual(s) was located. No one was found needing help and the incident was stood down.

RESCUE Overdue Glider – 2 Persons
DATE 06/09/2018
TIME 12:58pm
DURATION 2 hours 17 minutes
ATTENDEES 15

WHAT HAPPENED? SAR BOA received word that a glider carrying 2 people was overdue after departing from Driggs Airport. SAR Team Members were sent to Teton Aviation (joining Dr. Rich Sugden in his helicopter) and Helitack/Jackson Hole Airport. The Sheriff’s Office reported a ping from the missing aircraft located in the Middle/South Teton area on the west side of the range. Jenny Lake Rangers and Grand Teton National Park were informed of the location. Dr. Rich Sugden, accompanied by a SAR Team spotted the wing of the glider and confirmed a

crash at the pinged location. GTNP recovered two bodies from the wreckage.

RESCUE Dog Walker Injured Ankle, Hagan Trail
DATE 06/10/2018
TIME 12:40pm
DURATION 1 hour 20 minutes
ATTENDEES 17

WHAT HAPPENED? SAR BOA received a call for a possible broken ankle on the Hagan Trail. Fire/EMS was already on scene and requested a wheeled litter. SAR Team Members transported the patient in a wheeled litter to the trailhead where they transferred the patient to a waiting ambulance.

RESCUE Injured Leg, Darby Canyon
DATE 06/14/2018
TIME 1:14pm
DURATION 3 hours 46 minutes
ATTENDEES 13

WHAT HAPPENED? SAR BOA received a call for an injured leg at Darby Canyon, 200ft from the entrance to the Wind Cave. Patient had fallen and slid on snow and hit a rock. SAR Teams headed out in two hasty teams to the field. SAR Team Members treated a laceration in the field and packed the patient out in a wheeled litter to the trailhead where the patient was transported by ambulance.

RESCUE Overdue Hikers, JHMR
DATE 06/25/2018
TIME 9:03pm
DURATION 12 hours 27 minutes
ATTENDEES 15

WHAT HAPPENED? SAR BOA received a call about a father and two sons overdue from the Rock Springs trail. SAR Team Members conducted a ground search in the Union Pass area, up to the Gondola and back down and checked Fish Creek area for anyone coming out Jensen or Rock Springs Canyon. TCSO Dispatch attempted to ping phones, but no contact. SAR Team Members reconvened at 5:00am and sent two hasty teams and coordinated with GTNP. Hikers were found and it was determined they had planned to take the Granite Canyon trail, not the Rock Springs trail.

RESCUE Floating Kayak, Grassy Lake
DATE 06/26/2018
TIME 2:57pm
DURATION 59 minutes
ATTENDEES 8

WHAT HAPPENED? SAR BOA received a call about an empty kayak floating in Grassy Lake Reservoir. SAR Board requested a deputy at the location and asked TIDC to send a Forest Service or Park Service employee to the location. SAR Administrator called Camp Loll for assistance. Camp Loll confirmed that they had found the kayak owner and all was ok. Incident was stood down.

RESCUE Mountain Biker, Teton Pass/Old Pass Road
DATE 06/27/2018
TIME 4:01pm
DURATION 1 hour 44 minutes
ATTENDEES 12

WHAT HAPPENED? SAR BOA received a call about an injured 12 year old mountain biker on Teton Pass. SAR Team Members were dispatched to Teton Pass/Phillips upper lot to locate patient. Wheeled litter team was sent in, but biker was located on Old Pass Road. Patient was extracted and transported to ambulance with SAR vehicle.

RESCUE Bryan Flats – Injured Horse Rider
DATE 06/28/2018
TIME 10:09am
DURATION 25 minutes
ATTENDEES 12

WHAT HAPPENED? SAR BOA was notified of an injured horseback rider in the Bryan Flats area about 1/4 of a mile from the road. SAR Team Members spoke with responding party and determined that the injured party was back on horse and was riding out to a waiting vehicle. No SAR response needed.

RESCUE Pentagraph Meadows Heli Flight
DATE 06/28/2018
TIME 4:58pm
DURATION 2 hours 9 minutes
ATTENDEES 6

WHAT HAPPENED? SAR BOA received a call about a 70 year old man with a broken arm. A forest service employee called GTNP dispatch requesting a helicopter. GTNP coordinated with Teton

County SAR and USFS for an AirIdaho patient pickup. Patient was found and flown to St. John’s medical center.

» **JULY**

RESCUE Unresponsive Woman, Darby Canyon
DATE 07/02/2018
TIME 3:57pm
DURATION 1 hour 55 minutes
ATTENDEES 8

WHAT HAPPENED? SAR BOA received a call about a woman who was awake, but unresponsive, located on the Darby Canyon trail, roughly 1/4 of a mile from the parking lot. The reporting party said that she was hiking by this woman and called out to her. The woman moved but did not respond. SAR BOA requested a deputy to hike up the trailhead and check it out. When the deputy arrived, the woman was not there. SAR BOA assumed the woman had self-rescued.

RESCUE Wilson Bridge, Snake River
DATE 07/02/2018
TIME 7:00pm
DURATION 0 minutes
ATTENDEES 8

WHAT HAPPENED? SAR BOA received a call about a child who slipped on the bank of the Snake River and was swept away by the current. The father went in to save the child and they both ended up on an island in the middle of the Snake River. With the help of a fisherman, the father and child were able to walk north on the island, and board the fishing boat to be ferried across to the west bank of the river. The SAR team was stood down.

RESCUE Overdue Cavers, Wind Caves
DATE 07/03/2018
TIME 5:18pm
DURATION 12 minutes
ATTENDEES 4

WHAT HAPPENED? SAR BOA received a call a party of 7 possible cavers/hikers who had not been heard from since early that morning. The party had left Rexburg, ID and had planned to hike to the Wind Cave to look around, but not enter. TCSO send a deputy to the trailhead. While SAR BOA was deciding a course of action, the reporting party called and said that all were safe and accounted for.

RESCUE Injured Skier, Jackson Peak
DATE 07/04/2018
TIME 11:07am
DURATION 42 minutes
ATTENDEES 16

WHAT HAPPENED? SAR BOA received word about a skiing accident on Jackson Peak reported by a secondary party. SAR Team Members made plans for an ATV access team and a helicopter access team, but were stood down at 11:50am because the party had self-rescued.

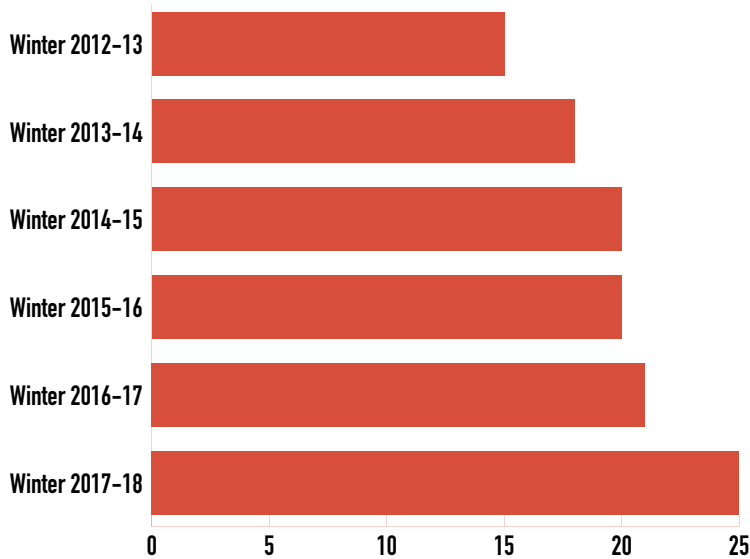
RESCUE Stranded Boaters, Hoback River
DATE 07/14/2018
TIME 11:33pm
DURATION 13 hours 19 minutes
ATTENDEES 17

WHAT HAPPENED? SAR BOA received a call for an overdue party of 3 males in Darby Canyon. The group had planned to do a through trip of the Wind Cave/Ice Cave and had instructed the reporting party to call if they did not return by 10:00pm on 07/14/2018. Because the overdue party was reasonably prepared and no medical issues were of concern, SAR BOA decided to page the SAR Team the next morning if the group had still not returned. One team was sent to search the ice cave from the entrance to the frozen waterfall. A second team was sent to search the wind cave from the entrance to the bottom of the “pit”. A horse pack team was deployed to carry equipment. As the wind cave team arrived at the entrance to the wind cave, the overdue party exited the cave with no injuries. SAR Team Members hiked out with them to the trailhead.

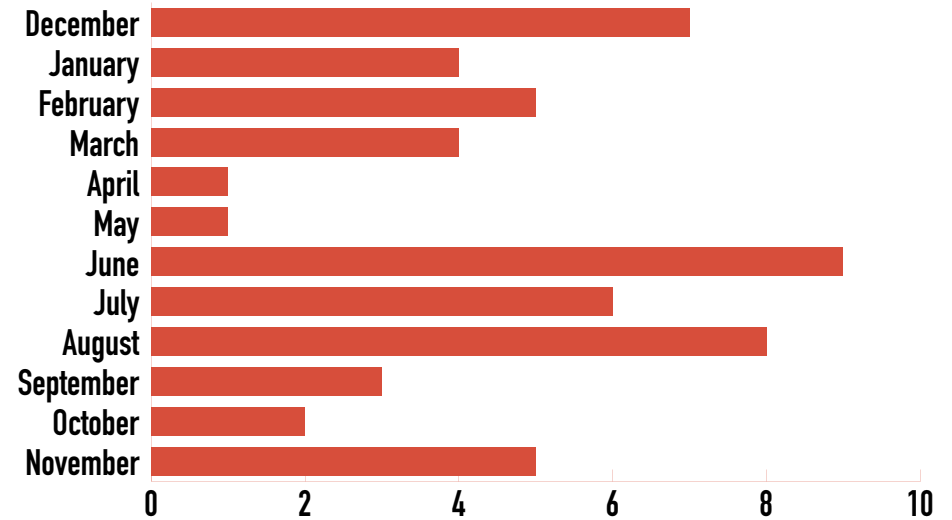
RESCUE Overdue Camper, Turpin Meadows
DATE 07/22/2018
TIME 9:45am
DURATION 41 minutes
ATTENDEES 5

WHAT HAPPENED? SAR BOA received word that an overdue camper had been due back in Kansas on Saturday night and was last heard from on Thursday. The camper was a 49 year old male, unfamiliar with the area but in good shape with no medical conditions and had maps and was prepared with appropriate gear and bear spray, thought to be in the Buffalo Fork, North Fork or Togwotee Mountain area. TCSO sent a deputy to the Buffalo Fork road. SAR BOA requested that Turpin Meadow Ranch and Togwotee Mountain Lodge employees be on the lookout. Teton Interagency Dispatch was

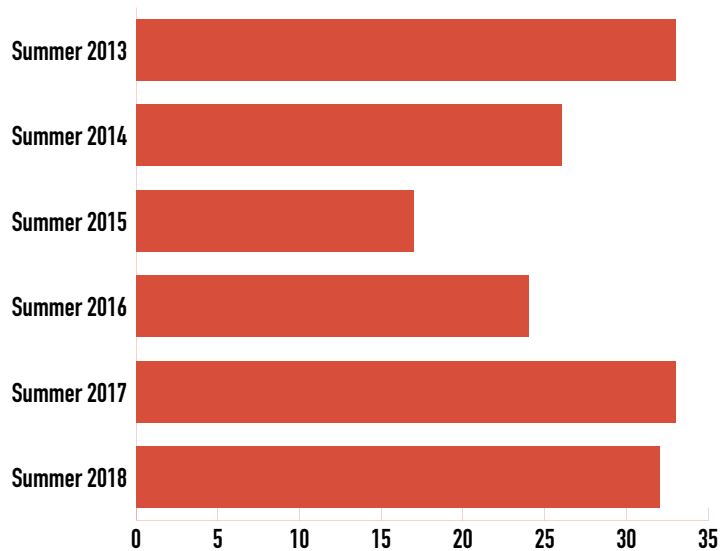
ACTIVE SAR INCIDENTS PER WINTER



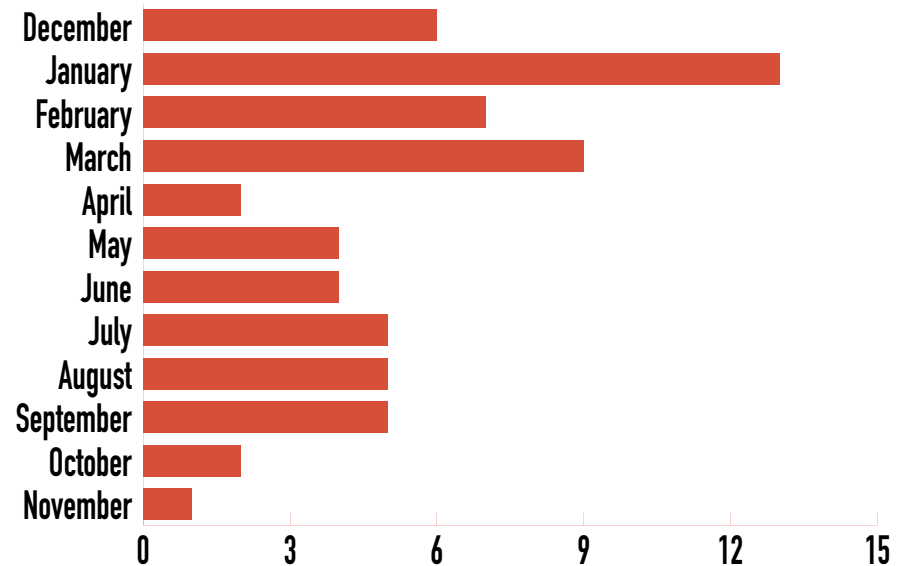
INCIDENTS BY MONTH 2017/2018



ACTIVE SAR INCIDENTS PER SUMMER



10 YEAR AVERAGE BY MONTH



SEARCH AND RESCUE LOCATIONS – DECEMBER 1, 2017 – NOVEMBER 30, 2018



notified so that Forest Service and Park Service could be on advised to look for his vehicle. Dispatch notified SAR BOA that the overdue camper had called in reporting all was ok.

RESCUE Injured Climber, Teton Canyon
DATE 07/27/2018
TIME 2:31pm
DURATION 5 hours 12 minutes
ATTENDEES 14

WHAT HAPPENED? SAR BOA received word that an 18 year old male had fallen backward off a boulder from 5-7ft, had landed on his back and rolled down 10ft into a tree/rock area near the trail in Teton Canyon. Three hasty teams were sent in. Patient was located at the top of the practice rock face, about 500ft above the trail on the north side. Hasty Teams 1 and 2 notified IC that the situation would be a high angle rescue. Idaho EMS helped bring patient to the trailhead where he was transferred to Driggs ambulance for transport to an Air Idaho helicopter staged in Teton Canyon.

RESCUE (Sublette SAR) Missing 13-Year Old Boy
DATE 07/28/2018
TIME 8:26pm
DURATION 1 hour 4 minutes
ATTENDEES 9

WHAT HAPPENED? SAR BOA received an assist call from Sublette County to search for a 13 year old boy, missing from a Boy Scout Trip. The boy was not noticed as missing until the group had arrived at Elkhart trailhead. SAR BOA made a plan to use horse teams and ground teams with air support due to difficulty of terrain. The search on 07/29/2018 turned up nothing. The boy was found safe in the early morning of 07/30/2018.

RESCUE Overdue Hikers, Alaska Basin
DATE 07/28/2018
TIME 9:29pm
DURATION 34 minutes
ATTENDEES 8

WHAT HAPPENED? SAR BOA received a call about overdue hikers/horseback riders in Alaska Basin. SAR Team Members were en-route to the trailhead to verify the vehicle was parked there when they received word that the party had shown up. SAR Team Members stood down.

» AUGUST

RESCUE In-Reach SOS, Teton Creek
DATE 08/02/2018
TIME 9:09pm
DURATION 9 hours 21 minutes
ATTENDEES 13

WHAT HAPPENED? SAR BOA received a call about an In-Reach SOS signal in the South Fork Teton Creek area. Calls and text messages to the activator received no response. TSCO dispatch requested a flyby and landing if possible. AirIdaho spotted a flashing light, but were unable to land due to terrain and haze. SAR Team Members sent two hasty teams in at the Teton Canyon trailhead. The hiker was found to be alright. The In-Reach had been placed in the owner's sleeping bag to keep the batteries warm and she did not realize the device was activated.

RESCUE Hiker with Chest Pain, Snow King
DATE 08/04/2018
TIME 12:14pm
DURATION 31 minutes
ATTENDEES 10

WHAT HAPPENED? SAR BOA received a page for a hiker reporting chest pain, located 2/3 of the way up Snow King. SAR Team was stood down when incident was transferred to JH Fire/EMS.

RESCUE Call for Help, Mt. Meek
DATE 08/04/2018
TIME 3:38pm
DURATION 52 minutes
ATTENDEES 6

WHAT HAPPENED? SAR BOA received a page about a suspicious call for help. A third party had seen someone on Mt. Meek yelling and waving a shirt but was unsure of whether it was a signal for help or not. SAR Team Members hiking in the area were asked to look in the area for anyone matching the description. SAR BOA decided not to send a team into the field because the report was given to dispatch several hours after the initial incident. Instead, the BOA asked Dispatch to call back if they received any additional related calls. No other calls were reported and SAR Team was stood down.

RESCUE Injured Hiker, Coal Creek
DATE 08/05/2018
TIME 4:25pm

DURATION 1 hour 35 minutes
ATTENDEES 11

WHAT HAPPENED? SAR BOA received a page for an injured female hiker with a possible broken ankle, located 1.1 miles from the Coal Creek Trailhead on the west side of Teton Pass. Patient was wheeled out of the backcountry but refused transport by EMS. SAR Team Members advised patient to seek immediate medical care.

RESCUE Overdue Cavers, Wind/Ice Caves
DATE 08/12/2018
TIME 7:12am
DURATION 33 hours 48 minutes
ATTENDEES 24

WHAT HAPPENED? SAR BOA received a page for a couple overdue from a through hike in the Wind/Ice Cave. A wind team and an ice team were dispatched to enter from either end of the Wind/Ice caves. The wind team systematically searched Maze routes while the Ice Team worked their way through the ice cave. The ice team located the patients upstream of headroom and Crotch Lake at 4:55pm after yelling their names and getting a response. They had burned their packs and equipment in an effort to stay warm. They had free climbed into a cavern and could not back track. Team members rappelled down with the patients and hiked them out.



RESCUE Broken Ankle, N. Fork Teton Creek
DATE 08/14/2018
TIME 12:48pm
DURATION 9 hours 2 minutes
ATTENDEES 16

WHAT HAPPENED? SAR BOA received a page about a male with a



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broken ankle, located in between Fred's Mountain and Table Mountain. The reporting party had splinted the ankle and received care from the patient's family, one of whom was a nurse. SAR Team moved the patient part of the way in a wheeled litter and then determined that a helicopter transport was necessary. GTNP helicopter team was available and SAR Team transferred care.

RESCUE Missing Person, Kelly Cliffs/Gros Ventre River
DATE 08/14/2018
TIME 5:58pm
DURATION 25 minutes
ATTENDEES 29

WHAT HAPPENED? SAR BOA received a call of a missing person who had jumped into the Gros Ventre River in Kelly. The area is in GTNP, but TC SAR put together a team for backup. GTNP located the missing person. TCSAR was stood down.

RESCUE Ankle Injury, Wildflower Trail
DATE 08/14/2018
TIME 6:51pm
DURATION 19 minutes
ATTENDEES 30

WHAT HAPPENED? SAR BOA received a call about an injured female on the Wildflower Trail. Mountain Patrol was able to reach the injured party by 4Wheeler.

RESCUE Missing Kayaker, Snake River
DATE 08/19/2018
TIME 1:24pm
DURATION 1 hour 6 minutes
ATTENDEES 22

WHAT HAPPENED? SAR BOA received a page for a missing male kayaker, aged 82. Interagency dispatch was called to request a USFS Ranger. SAR Team responded at Astoria and Pritchard boat ramps with jet boats and agency partners and determined that a rescue was not needed.

» **SEPTEMBER**

RESCUE Terrace Mountain Bear Attack Op. 1
DATE 09/14/2018
TIME 4:34pm
DURATION 3 hours 54 minutes
ATTENDEES 22

WHAT HAPPENED? SAR BOA received a page for a bear attack on two hunters, a guide and a client, cleaning an elk. The reporting party, the client, had sustained injuries and had last seen the guide being attacked while he made his escape. SAR Team responded with the interagency helicopter and WY Game and Fish warden. The helicopter was able to locate the reporting party, but there was no sign of the guide at the site of the attack. At nightfall, due to the inherent danger to teams in the field, the search was suspended until the next morning.

RESCUE Terrace Mountain Bear Attack Op.2
DATE 09/15/2018
TIME 6:30am
DURATION 13 hours
ATTENDEES 24

WHAT HAPPENED? TCSAR Team Members, TCSO deputies and WY Game and Fish personnel left the hangar at about 7:15am with TipTop's SAR helicopter. Several teams were sent into the field to perform a search at the last seen point. Additional volunteers, (outfitters, family and friends), were sent into the field to assist in the search. The guide was located and recovered at about 1:15pm. All teams were brought back from the field.

RESCUE Injured Hiker, Table Mountain
DATE 09/15/2018
TIME 9:36pm
DURATION 54 minutes
ATTENDEES 9

WHAT HAPPENED? SAR BOA received a page for possible overdue

hikers on Table Mountain. A second page came in to report that there was an injured hiker on Table Mountain. SAR Team Members planned a wheeled litter rescue. While en-route, team members received word that the injured party was out of the backcountry and no longer needed assistance. All teams were stood down.

RESCUE Screams Heard, Phillips Ridge
DATE 09/22/2018
TIME 9:36am
DURATION 1 hour 45 minutes
ATTENDEES 8

WHAT HAPPENED? A third party reported hearing a scream while hiking in the Phillips Canyon area. SAR Team Members walked up Phillips Canyon listening for any potential patients. TSCO deputies came upon a fire crew using chainsaws. The fire crew paused their work to listen. After 30 minutes of exploring the area and not hearing or seeing anyone in need of help, it was determined that no further action was needed.

RESCUE Lost Hikers, Table Rock
DATE 09/29/2018
TIME 8:25pm
DURATION 44 minutes
ATTENDEES 2

WHAT HAPPENED? SARBOA received a page for two lost females on Huckleberry Trail with no injuries. Over the phone the BOA was able to direct the hikers to the proper trail to get back down to the parking lot. SAR Team Members were stood down.

» **OCTOBER**

RESCUE Fisherman Fall, Snake River
DATE 10/06/2018
TIME 1:07pm
DURATION 15 minutes
ATTENDEES 10

WHAT HAPPENED? SAR BOA received a page about a male seen falling into the Snake River on the SE side of the Snake River Bridge (HWY 22). Dispatch had sent two deputies into the field. A SAR Team Member was in the vicinity and headed to the scene, was able to locate the fisherman and determine that he was alright. SAR Team Members were stood down.

RESCUE Sick Hiker, Phillips Canyon
DATE 10/06/2018
TIME 2:56pm
DURATION 2 hours 4 minutes
ATTENDEES 15

WHAT HAPPENED? SAR BOA received a page about a 61 year old male, located about 1/4 mile up the Phillips Canyon Trail, having difficulty breathing and chest pain. SAR Team Members in the area were able to transport the patient to JH Fire/EMS at the Phillips parking lot.

RESCUE Sick Hunter, Hawks Rest Cabin
DATE 10/14/2018
TIME 6:59am
DURATION 3 hours 29 minutes
ATTENDEES 7

WHAT HAPPENED? SAR BOA received a page about a 73 year old male at a hunting camp (Hawks Nest), having shortness of breath. AirIdaho was requested for lifeflight and picked up the patient.

RESCUE Missing Wedding Attendee, Moose Creek Ranch
DATE 10/20/2018
TIME 4:49am
DURATION 3 hours 36 minutes
ATTENDEES 11

WHAT HAPPENED? SAR BOA received a page from Teton County Idaho Sheriff's Office for additional resources about a missing 60 year old female that had wandered off from a wedding party located in the Whisky Creek/Moose Creek area. SAR Team drove to Moose Creek Ranch to assist in the search. As the teams were being assigned to the field, the missing person showed up. She had left the ranch and found a safe place to spend the night. All SAR teams were released.

» NOVEMBER

RESCUE Truck Over the Edge, Teton Pass
DATE 11/01/2018
TIME 2:34pm
DURATION 1 hour 26 minutes
ATTENDEES 17

WHAT HAPPENED? SAR BOA received a page about a vehicle that had broken through the guardrail and gone over the edge on Teton Pass. SAR Team was assembled for a high angle rescue. Fire/EMS was already en-route. Two SAR team members were on the pass at the time and able to respond. The vehicle was sitting on the driver's side at the bottom of a 50 degree slope about 70ft from the road. SAR Team Members and Fire/EMS were able to access the patient and transport him to the road, (and a waiting ambulance), utilizing technical rope rescue techniques. The patient was transported to SJMC by Fire/EMS.

RESCUE Stranded Hiker, Jedediah Smith Wilderness
DATE 11/05/2018
TIME 7:56am
DURATION 9 hours 4 minutes
ATTENDEES 22

WHAT HAPPENED? SAR BOA received a page from the Driggs Sheriff's office for a stranded hunter/hiker on the Green Mountain Trail in the Jedediah Smith Wilderness who had been stranded for two days, cold and wet in a tent. SAR Team Members sent two teams out. The first team was flown to the patient location and patient was flown to the trailhead where his truck was located.

RESCUE Lost/Tired Skier, Teton Pass
DATE 11/08/2018
TIME 1:59pm
DURATION 2 hours 21 minutes
ATTENDEES 16

WHAT HAPPENED? SAR BOA received a page about a 72 year old male, in need of assistance in getting off Teton Pass, suffering from exhaustion, unable to go any further. SAR Team Members formed two strike teams to reach the patient, located below the second turn on the south side of the road. The skier was located by the first team and was found to be medically ok, but hungry and lost. SAR Team Members accompanied him off the pass.

RESCUE Injured Skier, Ski Lake Area/Teton Pass
DATE 11/10/2018
TIME 2:01pm
DURATION 2 hours 59 minutes
ATTENDEES 17

WHAT HAPPENED? SAR BOA received a call regarding a 36 year old male skier in the Ski Lake area who hit a rock and had a possible spine injury. Two teams were deployed. One team flew by helicopter to the patient and located him with the reporting party. Patient was complaining of back pain. SAR Team Members immobilized the patient in a full body vacuum split for transport by helicopter. Patient was transported to Fire/EMS, waiting at Phillips Canyon parking lot.

RESCUE Avalanche in Moose Brush Bowl
DATE 11/25/2018
TIME 11:02am
DURATION 118 minutes
ATTENDEES 19

WHAT HAPPENED? At about 11:02 the SAR team received a page for an avalanche with known burial. The RP reported an avalanche with tracks going in and possible buried subjects on Moose Brush that he could see from his location on Edelweiss. The Board decided to plan an avalanche search. Once at the hangar, IC made a plan to conduct an arial search with the helicopter beacon. In addition , a short haul team would go in with the helicopter beacon and prepare to either land or short haul in, depending on conditions. The helicopter team used the heli beacon to perform a signal search of the slide path. They did not detect any signal and did not see any tracks going in or out of the avalanche. There were no visible clues. Because there was no evidence of anyone buried or caught in the avalanche, IC stood down the mission and all teams returned to the hangar



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Teton County S

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In the 25 years it's been around the Teton County Search and Rescue team hasn't grown much in size. But the breadth of its missions has grown exponentially.



Search and Rescue Celebrates 25th Anniversary

Before 1993, if someone needed help in the backcountry Sheriff Roger Millward would call up some able-bodied friends and they would throw together a rescue with the help of a few detention officers.

"I said, 'This is Teton County, Wyoming. How do you not have a Search and Rescue team?'" said Alan Merrell, the first coordinator of the team. Millward approached him in 1992 when he heard Merrell had volunteered for the Las Vegas Search and Rescue and Civil Air Patrol. "I got to start the team from scratch and pick who I wanted," Merrell said.

Of the 160 people who applied to be on the team after

ads ran in the Jackson Hole News and the Jackson Hole Guide, Merrell picked 30 people with diverse skills who were willing to learn how to execute every type of rescue. The Feb. 3, 1993, advertisements called for people who liked the outdoors and wanted to save lives and serve the community.

"I brought up my team from Las Vegas and we went through the training here and we graduated the team and started doing rescues on our own," Merrell said.

Volunteers had to provide a lot of their own gear and buy pagers. "We had just pagers back then. We didn't have cellphones," JC Whitfield said. "All 30 of us would get the

page. Anyone who showed up was trained in everything."

Whitfield was a member of the original '93 class and worked as a trauma therapist at the time. "I've done a lot of things in my life helping people, with hospital work, but I've never done anything that meant so much to me as Search and Rescue did," she said.

Whitfield, 70, remembers one rescue that was especially challenging. "We were called in one time for a hunter whose horse went over on top of him and broke his femur up Gravel Creek," she said. "And it was minus 36 outside."

Just as darkness fell a helicopter dropped Whitfield and



other volunteers to help the hunter. “We packaged him and got him ready and out on the helicopter,” she said. “But we had to march out.”

The team built a fire to warm up before hiking back. “We built a big fire and we found chunks of snow and thawed them out to fill our water bottles,” she said. “The only bars they had back then were these PowerBars and they’d get hard as a rock. We put them on sticks and put them over the fire to get them soft.”

Whitfield stopped volunteering in 2002 but remembers it as special: “It’s from your heart. It’s always been something that I miss very much.”

Today the team has 35 volunteers and a foundation to support its needs. On average each volunteer donates 270 hours to searches, rescues and training. Their missions include swift water rescue, avalanche rescue, cave rescue, downed aircraft tracking, lost person search, helicopter operations, high-angle rescue, backcountry skiing and snowmobiling and wilderness emergency medicine and patient evacuation.

Three of the original team members are still active with Search and Rescue: Mike Moyer, Mike Estes and Tim



ALAN MERRELL, FIRST TCSAR COORDINATOR

Ciocarlan.

Ciocarlan, chief advisor to the team until he recently stepped down, joined Search and Rescue after he saw the advertisement in the paper for the new team.

“I thought, ‘I live in the mountains, I play in the mountains: This gives me a reason to stay in shape, and I can help and learn some things,’” he said.

Moyer also answered that ad. He was interested in backcountry medicine and emergency services and had visited the sheriff’s office a few months after he moved to town and before a formal team was established. He applied immediately when he saw the ad.

Since then he’s responded to grizzly bear attacks and plane crashes. He has searched for people lost in caves, rescued people in avalanches and on the river, even helped people injured on Snow King. He has saved lives and has

also had to tell family members that a loved one died.

In 25 years that dedication to responding to all kinds of accidents in the valley hasn't changed, said Stephanie Thomas, executive director of the Teton County Search and Rescue Foundation, a nonprofit that supports the volunteer squad. The team currently has 36 members. Since it started it has averaged between 30 and 40, she said.

They didn't get a dedicated building until 2010, so they stowed gear in storage units and garages. That year saw the formation of the Teton County Search and Rescue Foundation, which worked to support the volunteers, including helping to provide gear. Before that they supplied all their own equipment.

Search and Rescue didn't have regular access to a helicopter for nearly 10 years, until Teton County started to pay for one for three months in the winter. That was

eventually expanded to six months. The foundation raised money this year to expand it to seven months.

The team regularly uses the helicopter, and a group of rescuers have been trained in short-haul, a rescue method in which a person dangles below the helicopter and is either inserted or collected at a location without the ship landing.

But the biggest change in 25 years is in the equipment, Moyer said. "People get deeper, higher and go faster," he said. And that means the rescuers have to do the same.

In the early days of Search and Rescue there were more calls for lost people, and a search was almost always part of the rescue, Ciocarlan said. It took longer to call Search and Rescue; usually someone had to hike out and find a landline to call for help.

Now, with GPS and cellphones, rescuers usually know where they are going and often get calls immediately. "But the rescues have become far more complex," he said. "We are in an era of adventure sports." It's an evolution that has occurred across outdoor sports, from running, climbing and caving to snowmobiling, skiing and paddling.

"The gear has evolved so greatly, and it's so advanced," Ciocarlan said. "People can ski or play in these areas that they could barely go 25 years ago. They are good at it, and



TIM CIOCARLAN, MIKE ESTES, MIKE MOYER- TCSAR MEMBERS SINCE 1993

they are doing amazing things, but the injuries are more severe. People are now falling bigger distances or getting into big avalanches.”

Teton County Search and Rescue is adding technology to its arsenal of rescue tools this year with a device that acts as a mobile cell tower. Carried in an aircraft, it can create a small area of cell service so rescuers could use victims’ cellphones to triangulate locations. “That’s a game changer,” Ciocarlan said.

Even with most people carrying cellphones, large areas of the backcountry have no service. It’s not uncommon for a person to fall in the backcountry and survive, only to die before a rescue team arrives because the crew couldn’t find the victim, Ciocarlan said.

The new technology is important, but as Ciocarlan looks to the future the biggest need will eventually be access to a helicopter year round.

“It’s inevitable,” he said. “It’s going to be year-round and it’s going to be used more. You just have to have that tool.”

Thank you to the Jackson Hole News&Guide for allowing us to reprint this content. “Search team celebrates 25 years” by Emily Mieure, Aug 22, 2018; “Rescue teams and missions in spotlight” by Kelsey Dayton, Aug 29, 2018.



SPARKS 28



MIKE MOYER



TIM CIOCARLAN



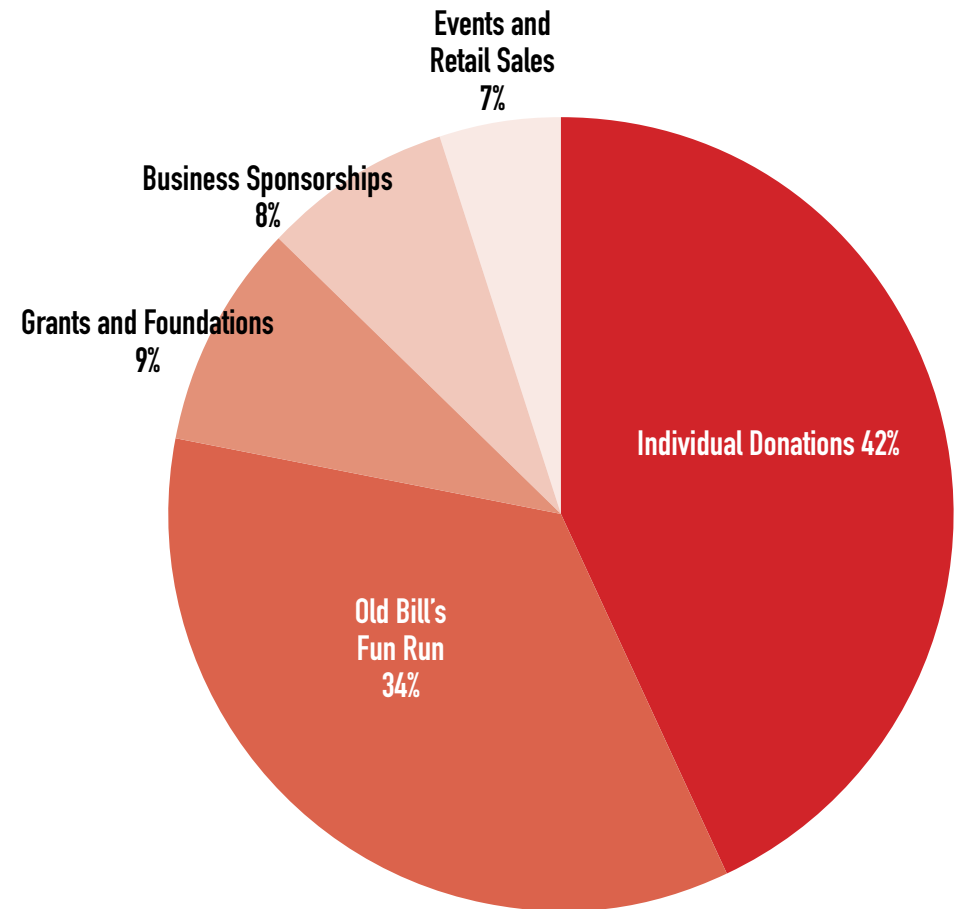
MIKE ESTES



TCSAR FOUNDATION MISSION

TCSAR Foundation saves lives through direct volunteer support, community education and advocacy.

HOW TCSAR FOUNDATION IS FUNDED



2018/19 WISH LIST

Advanced Snowmobile Training \$10,000

Snowmobile rescues can expose our volunteers to high risk terrain using powerful machinery. Select members of the TCSAR team will have the opportunity to learn new techniques and spend additional time training in remote and extreme terrain.

Training Scholarships - \$7,500

Every volunteer in good standing is eligible to apply for funding to support their personal growth in the SAR world. Conference fees, additional trainings, and advanced opportunities are often something SAR volunteers need financial support for to continue their education.

SAR Volunteer Leadership Training \$25,000

The volunteer SAR advisors are often the leaders on missions and decision making efforts for the team. This leadership has additional time commitments, training requirements, and responsibility that the TCSAR Foundation is committed to supporting.

Heli-Yes Sponsorship - \$15,000

Help us increase our helicopter contract from 6 to 7 months covering critical spring months in the Tetons. As the sponsor for our Heli-Yes campaign, we'll use your donation as a matching fund to help drive donations from the community.

Volunteer Recognition - \$10,000

Every year we recognize our volunteers for the service they give to our community. From gear stipends to family BBQs, we try our best to show our volunteers and their families how much we appreciate the sacrifices they make.

Backcountry Safety Equipment - \$47,000

Every year we need to upgrade and replace portions of the backcountry safety equipment our volunteers need to safely train and provide rescue services. From beacons to harnesses, carabiners to helmets, keeping our volunteers safe is one of our primary objectives.

Advanced Life Support Volunteer Training \$4,000

Every year we offer 2 scholarships for volunteers to advance their medical training, from Wilderness First Responder to EMT or EMT to Paramedic. These funds will support this advanced training opportunity.

WYSAW Sponsorship - \$1,500 - \$7,500

The Wyoming Snow and Avalanche Workshop is a full day educational workshop for snow and avalanche professionals and recreational backcountry users. The event includes a series of presentations and a panel discussion that provides attendees with an opportunity to engage in conversations about risk management, terrain evaluation, snowpack considerations and more while traveling in avalanche terrain. WYSAW is our largest single day educational event of the year with over 350 attendees.



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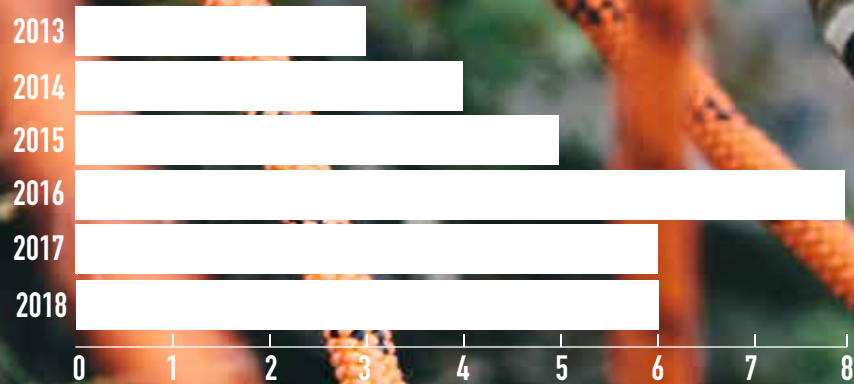
TCSAR Foundation raises money to support SAR volunteers with equipment, personal support and advanced training. If you are interested in funding one of our “Wish List” items for 2019, please contact us.

DONATE:

www.tetoncountysar.org/donate
info@tetoncountysar.org
307-413-0604

TCSAR Foundation
PO Box 1063
Jackson, WY 83001

BACKCOUNTRY FATALITIES BY YEAR



INCIDENTS BY DAY OF WEEK WINTER 2017/2018



INCIDENTS BY DAY OF WEEK SUMMER 2018



SHRIVER SOCIETY

The Shriver Society is a group of dedicated supporters of Teton County Search and Rescue who make a long term, significant contribution to the volunteer team.

RAY SHRIVER served on the Teton County Search and Rescue team from its inception in 1993 until his death in 2012. Ray was killed in February 2012 in a helicopter crash while on a search and rescue mission. The Shriver Society was created in his honor. Your 3 year gift augments training, equipment and other ancillary support, directly impacting our mission.

For more information please visit tetoncountysar.org/shriversociety or call us at 307-413-0604.



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Our volunteers respond to calls 365/24/7.

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