



2023 END-OF-YEAR REVIEW+

RESCUE REPORT



TETON COUNTY
SEARCH + RESCUE

A YEAR OF GROWTH, CHANGE, AND SUCCESS

Howdy.

2023 has been a year of growth and change at TCSAR. This year we celebrated our 30th anniversary. Thirty years is a generation, and this generation set our foundation, tempo, and core values. We are fortunate to have three founding members still on the Team: Mike Moyer, Mike Estes, and Tim Ciocarlan. These three have been here since the beginning. Their individual contributions to the community and Team cannot be overstated. We all feel lucky and privileged to serve beside these teammates.

Some things we have accomplished this year include:

We got a helicopter. The ship's tail number is N91122. It is quite the machine — a real beauty. This helicopter and the robust program being built around it are cutting edge. Purchasing a helicopter was the logical evolution for mountain Search and Rescue for our area. We feel fortunate to be on the front edge of change, with 100 percent of the helicopter being purchased through philanthropic dollars. This helicopter was bought by our community for our community, and it will save lives.

This year we put together our first strategic plan. It is our attempt to write down what is in the secret sauce to help define what makes our Team what it is. The plan's intention is to draw a simple map that everyone in the organization can follow to keep us moving in the same direction.

This year we created a new logo. Our old logo treated us well, but with a new generation of TCSAR, it was time for an update. Creating a brand that conveys who we are and that everyone can rally behind is important.

This year we brought on a new Executive Director for the TCSAR Foundation. Keegan Young stepped into the role in order to lead the Foundation into the next chapter. The Foundation is an important pillar of what makes our Team what it is. We are excited to have Keegan join the Team.

Lastly and most importantly, we did our job. Our core function is to provide Search & Rescue services to those in need in the Jackson Hole backcountry. We accomplish this by working as a Team. This is a job we all take seriously and are proud to do. A lot has changed in a generation, but the core values set by our founders remain the same: service to the community, commitment to Team, and the tireless pursuit to be Rescue Ready.

Our commitment to community service is strong while how we do it has evolved. We are looking forward to where the next generation takes the Team.

CODY LOCKHART
TCSAR Chief Advisor
Volunteer #84



TCSO

SAR ADVISORS AND STAFF

CODY LOCKHART
CHIEF ADVISOR

AJ WHEELER, M.D.
MEDICAL ADVISOR

DOUG VAN HOUTEN
LOGISTICS ADVISOR

ALEX NORTON
PLANNING ADVISOR

KC BESS
MEMBERSHIP ADVISOR

ANTHONY STEVENS
TRAINING ADVISOR

MIKE ESTES
TCSO SAR COORDINATOR

STEVE WILSON
TCSO CHIEF PILOT

MATT CARR
TCSO SHERIFF

OUR VOLUNTEERS

**TCSAR VOLUNTEERS ARE READY TO RESPOND
24 HOURS A DAY, 7 DAYS A WEEK, 365 DAYS A YEAR.**

The volunteers elect six advisors, who are also TCSAR volunteers, to make decisions on behalf of the team in all facets of Search & Rescue operations. This Board of Advisors (BOA) are the first to be paged by Dispatch after an emergency call, and they determine how the team responds to backcountry rescues.

**FROM DECEMBER 1, 2022, TO NOVEMBER 30, 2023,
TCSAR VOLUNTEERS DEDICATED**

11,589 HOURS

TO THE FOLLOWING:

**RESCUES
5,307 HOURS**

**TRAINING
5,779 HOURS**

**COMMUNITY EVENTS
503 HOURS**



TCSAR VOLUNTEER TEAM MEMBERS



AJ WHEELER



ALEX NORTON



ANDREW ARMINGTON



ANNA DISANTO



ANTHONY STEVENS



ASHLEY DIDION



BROOK YEOMANS



CAROL VIAU



CHASE LOCKHART



CHRIS LEIGH



CHRIS STIEHL



CODY LOCKHART



DAN ROGERS



DON WATKINS



DOUG VAN HOUTEN



ED FRIES



ERIC HELGOTH



ETHAN LOBDELL



GALEN PARKE



IAN JOHNSTON



JEN REDDY



JENN SPARKS



JOHN WIEDIE



KC BESS



KEEGAN PFEIL



LEXIE MACPHEE



MIKE MOYER



PHILLIP FOX



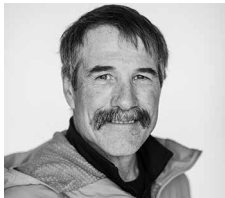
ROBB SGROI



RYAN COMBS



RYAN MERTAUGH



SCOTT SHERVIN



STEPHANIE THOMAS



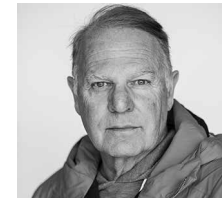
STEVE WURM



TED KYLE



TERRI ROMANOWSKI



TIM CIOCARLAN



TOBIN DENNIS



WILL SMITH

TCSO EMPLOYEES



MATT CARR
TCSO Sheriff



MIKE ESTES
TCSO SAR Coordinator



STEVE WILSON
TCSO Chief Pilot

SUMMER INCIDENTS BY THE NUMBERS

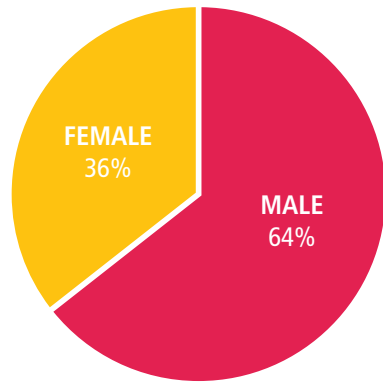
JUNE 1 - NOVEMBER 30, 2023

2023 PATIENT BY GENDER

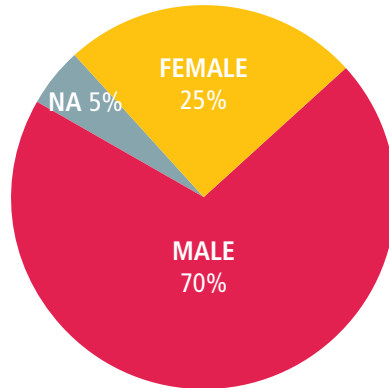
MALE 27 FEMALE 15



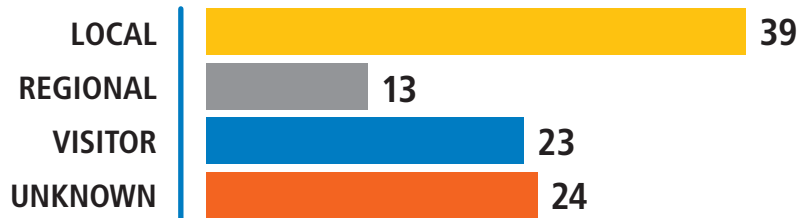
JUNE - NOVEMBER 2023



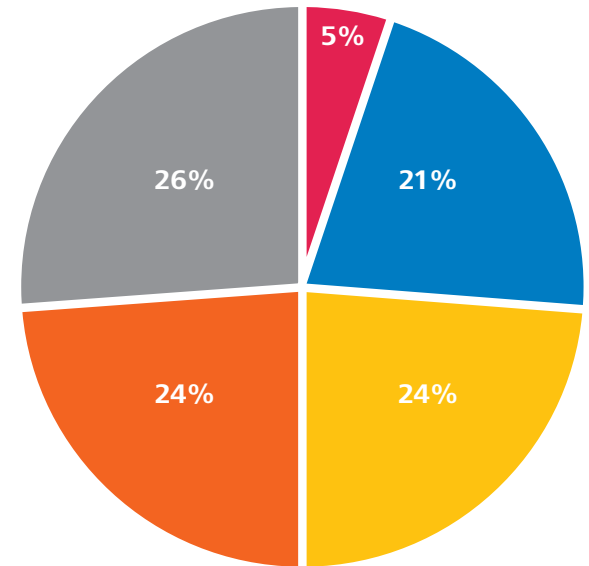
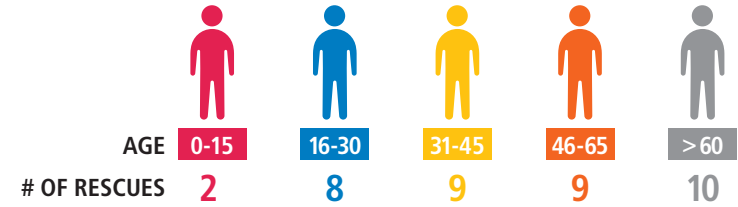
WINTER 10-YEAR AVERAGE



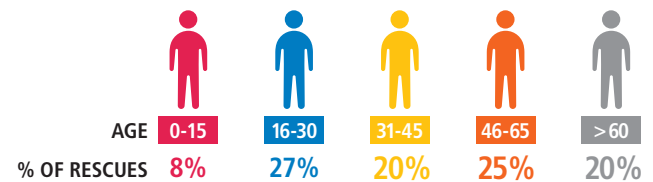
PATIENT RESIDENCE BREAKDOWN



2023 PATIENT BY AGE



2022 PATIENT BY AGE





HOW TO CALL SEARCH AND RESCUE

DIAL OR TEXT 911

911 calls in Teton County go to local dispatch, who then contacts the TCSAR Board of Advisors to formulate a rescue plan.

UTILIZE HANDHELD SATELLITE DEVICES

Handheld satellite devices, such as SPOT or Garmin inReach, have SOS capabilities that allow the user to connect with the International Emergency Response Coordination Center (IERCC), which can then connect to local dispatch.

BackcountrySOS

BackcountrySOS is a free app developed by TCSAR Foundation that acts as a text to 911 with minimal cell service. These notifications go directly to dispatch. The app is available in 12 counties across the Intermountain West and provides emergency responders with your exact location, but does not allow two-way communication.

WHAT SHOULD YOU SAY WHEN YOU CALL 911?

- 1) Provide your location first in case the call gets dropped.
- 2) Provide the nature of the accident and condition of the person in need.
- 3) Try not to move around when speaking so that the call does not drop.
- 4) Unless you are in immediate danger, stay in your same location until Search & Rescue arrives.

END-OF-YEAR 2023 RESCUE REVIEW



indicates helicopter was deployed / requested

The goal behind sharing these incident summaries is not to cast shame or judgment on anyone who needs help. Rather, we include these stories to provide lessons learned and help everyone be aware and mindful of the importance of decision-making and preparedness in the backcountry.

SWIFTWATER CALL ON UPPER SNAKE RIVER

JUNE 5, 2023 / 5:08PM
DURATION: 58 minutes
ATTENDEES: 9
Board Call Only

WHAT HAPPENED: Grand Teton National Park alerted TCSAR about a possible search for two missing paddlers on the Snake River just south of Yellowstone National Park. The call was informational only, and the missing mother and son were located about an hour later.

BY THE NUMBERS

JUNE 1 - NOVEMBER 30, 2023

48 TOTAL CALLS FOR SERVICE



17 HIKERS



11* BOARD CALL ONLY



3 HUNTERS



8 MOUNTAIN BIKERS



6 HORSEBACK RIDERS



3 SWIFTWATER RESCUES



2 CLIMBERS



1 FALSE ACTIVATION



1 CAVER



1 MISSING PERSON



9** HELICOPTER REQUESTS



1 SPEED FLYER



1 AVALANCHE

*Indicates that call was handled without team members going into the field.

**Overall incident count does not include 2 heli requests from out of county that did not require TCSAR team response.

INJURED MOUNTAIN BIKER ON PARALLEL TRAIL

JUNE 9, 2023 / 6:14PM
DURATION: 1 hour, 9 minutes
ATTENDEES: 15

WHAT HAPPENED: A 26-year-old male suffered a leg injury after crashing on his mountain bike on the Parallel Trail on Teton Pass. Two teams from TCSAR responded and one volunteer dispatched directly to the scene. Volunteers reached the patient, assessed his injuries, and transported him down the trail in the wheeled litter to a waiting ambulance.

LOST HIKERS ON TABLE MOUNTAIN

JUNE 10, 2023 / 6:54PM
DURATION: 2 hours, 13 minutes
ATTENDEES: 6
Board Call Only

WHAT HAPPENED: A group of three hikers became lost, with one hiker getting separated from the group, while descending the Face Trail from Table Mountain. One of the hikers put in an emergency call which was connected to the TCSAR Board of Advisors (BOA). One volunteer responded to the trailhead and confirmed the missing person's car was still there. All hikers were accounted for at the trailhead around 9 p.m.

LINCOLN COUNTY ASSIST FOR STRANDED HIKER

JUNE 14, 2023 / 7:08 PM

DURATION:

2 hours, 52 minutes

ATTENDEES: 20



Star Valley

SAR Helicopter Assist

WHAT HAPPENED: In the evening of June 14, TCSAR received a call from Star Valley Search & Rescue in Lincoln County for helicopter assistance to help a hiker who'd become cliffed out in extreme terrain east of Afton, Wyo. The response serves as a good example of different SAR teams working together to help someone in distress.

SVSAR reported that the woman became disoriented and lost in fog at a higher elevation hours earlier and, after becoming wet and cold, followed the wrong ridgeline until deadfall and steep terrain left her unable to continue. Exhausted, lost and recognizing she wouldn't be able to find her way out before dark, she called for help.

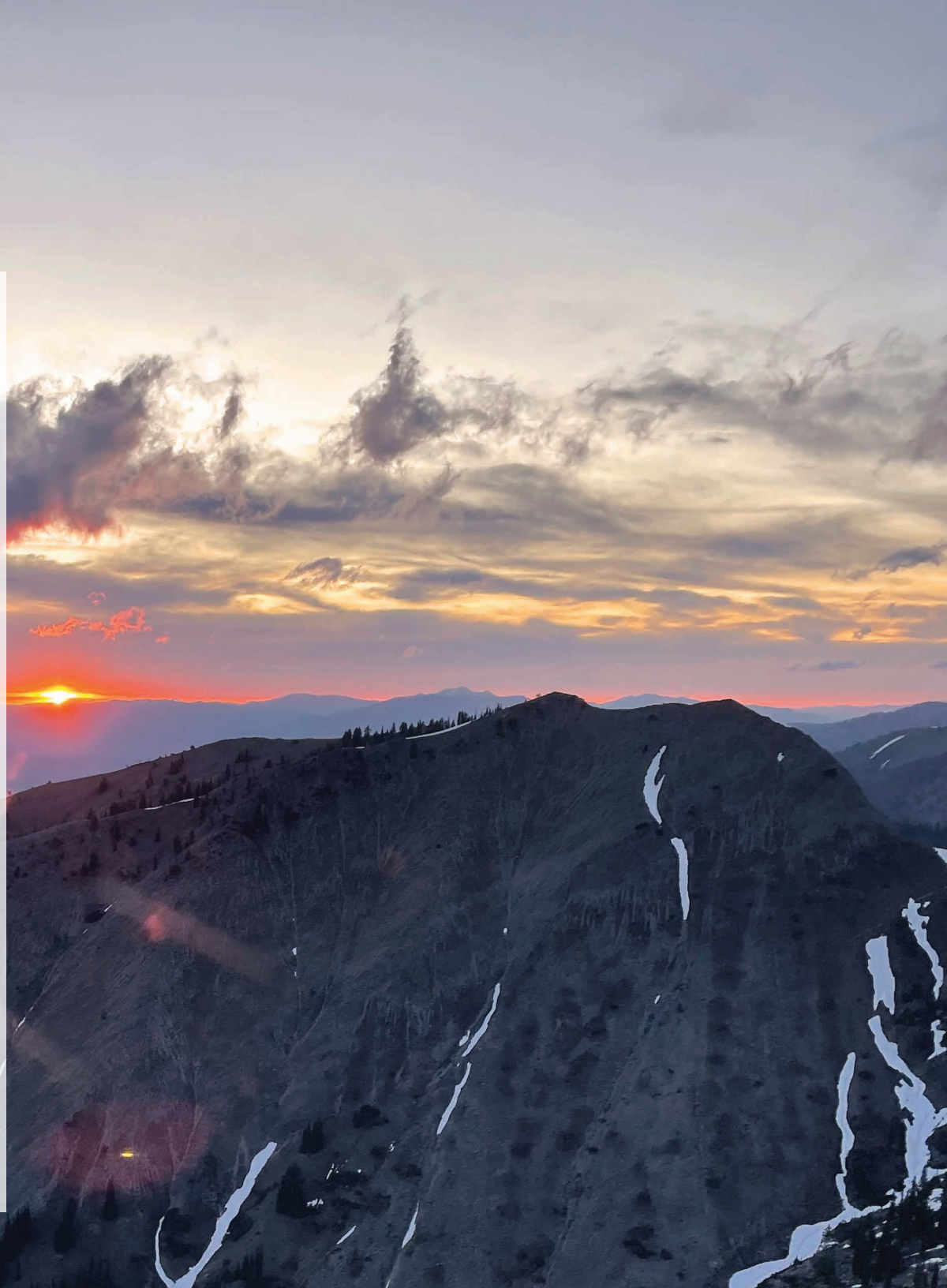
SVSAR members responded on motorized dirt bikes to a position above and to the south of her, then hiked several miles to her position and made contact. With daylight getting short, SVSAR volunteers believed it would take many hours to help get her down safely without helicopter assistance. That's when they put in the heli request at TCSAR.

TCSAR volunteers accepted the mission and dispatched a short-haul heli team to the woman's location. The team also sent ground teams in SAR vehicles as backup.

The heli team found the woman at 8:40 p.m., and successfully short-hauled her to the valley floor just outside of Afton at 8:55 p.m. Short-haul is a rescue method where a patient and rescuers are hoisted via a rope connected to the belly of the helicopter for a short flight out of the backcountry. It is often used in steep terrain where landing the helicopter is not an option. The woman, an Afton resident, did not require medical care and wished to express her gratitude to all responders when debriefed at SVSAR headquarters immediately after her rescue.

The heli team was able to fly back to Jackson without ground assistance, landing at the TCSAR hangar just five minutes before dark.

TCSAR appreciates the partnership and coordination from our friends at SVSAR, and was happy to be in a position to help the woman get out of the backcountry safely.



SWIFTWATER RESPONSE AT WILSON BRIDGE

JUNE 16, 2023 / 10:46AM

DURATION: 1 hour, 19 minutes

ATTENDEES: 14

WHAT HAPPENED: A commercial raft hit a pylon at the Wilson Bridge and deposited all 12 passengers into the Snake River. TCSAR was one of several agencies to respond, including Jackson Hole Fire/EMS, Teton County Sheriff Deputies, and commercial guides. As the different parties responded, all swimmers self-rescued from the river, and guides helped them walk from an island to the levee. Medics warmed patients while a deputy gave two members a ride home, and TCSAR returned to the hangar.

BEAR SCARE IN DARBY CANYON

JUNE 28, 2023 / 10:30PM

DURATION: 1 hour

ATTENDEES: 22

WHAT HAPPENED: A 27-year-old local male called his mom to say he believed he was being followed by a bear during a trail run in Darby Canyon. He told her to call 911 if he didn't make it back to his car after two hours. Two hours later, the mother put in the emergency call reporting that her son had been injured by a bear. The BOA convened on a conference call while a TCSAR volunteer drove to the trailhead. As he was driving in, he encountered the man in his car leaving the trailhead and reported that all was fine.

INJURED HORSE RIDER AT GAME CREEK

JULY 5, 2023 / 7:16PM

DURATION: 2 hours, 26 minutes

ATTENDEES: 17

WHAT HAPPENED: TCSAR was alerted to a 32-year-old female who had been thrown from her horse near the Game Creek subdivision. Initial reports stated multiple injuries. Volunteers responded in the RZR (an all-terrain vehicle), which accessed the patient and then transported her to a waiting ambulance at the trailhead.

INJURED HIKER ON HISTORY TRAIL

JULY 7, 2023 / 11:50AM

DURATION: 2 hours, 30 minutes

ATTENDEES: 18

WHAT HAPPENED: Just before noon on July 7, a local woman in her 50s was hiking with her dog on the History Trail when she came down with an ankle injury. TCSAR responded with a team driving the RZR up the Old Pass Road. The volunteers located the patient, splinted her ankle, transported her in the wheeled litter back to the RZR, and drove her down the Old Pass Road to her vehicle.

DISTRESSED BIKERS AT MOSQUITO LAKE

JULY 8, 2023 / 6:58AM

DURATION: 8 hours, 32 minutes

ATTENDEES: 12

WHAT HAPPENED: TCSAR received a call regarding a bikepacker having a medical issue at Mosquito Lake off the Union Pass Road. TCSAR volunteers responded by driving a SAR truck towing the RZR on a trailer to the north access of Union Pass Road. They then drove the RZR over the dirt road to Mosquito Lake, where they met the patient and his riding partner, who were both visiting from out of state. The team then drove the pair, with their bikes loaded on a bike rack attached to the RZR, out of the backcountry and back to Jackson for higher medical care. Due to the remoteness of Mosquito Lake and the long drive, this mission wrapped up in 8 hours, 32 minutes.

INJURED HIKER ON TABLE MOUNTAIN

JULY 8, 2023 / 12:25PM

DURATION: 5 hours, 5 minutes

ATTENDEES: 14

WHAT HAPPENED: As the previous rescue call played out, TCSAR received another call regarding an injured hiker, a man in his 60s, on the North Teton Trail of Table Mountain. The man's partners were able to provide initial treatment but required further assistance from TCSAR to get out of the backcountry. Volunteers drove to the trailhead and entered the backcountry on foot carrying the wheeled litter. Once on scene, they packaged the man in the litter and wheeled him about a mile to the trailhead.

PARK COUNTY HELICOPTER REQUEST

JULY 14, 2023 / 2:39PM

DURATION: 1 hour, 22 minutes

ATTENDEES: 1

Board Call Only



WHAT HAPPENED: The TCSAR Office received a request for a helicopter from Park County Search & Rescue to assist a climber stranded on the Gardner Buttress in the Beartooth Mountains. The request for assistance was withdrawn after discovering the climber was deceased after sustaining head trauma from rockfall. Approximately an hour later, Park County called back to request helicopter assistance in recovering the body and the request was forwarded to Grand Teton National Park.

MISSING HIKERS ON TABLE MOUNTAIN

JULY 15, 2023 / 9:03PM

DURATION: 1 hour, 18 minutes

ATTENDEES: 4

WHAT HAPPENED: The BOA was paged regarding a concern for missing and possibly unprepared hikers—a father and his 7- and 9-year-old daughters—on Table Mountain. The call came from an unrelated reporting party (RP), who stated that she was hiking down at 5:15 p.m. while the three hikers were still going up and she felt they were unprepared. The RP made it out at 8:30 p.m. but never saw them come down and was trying to find someone to go look for them. The BOA decided that a third-party concerned citizen was not enough to mobilize a SAR response. A Forest Service employee later reported that the party had made it out.

DISTRESSED HIKER ON CRATER TRAIL

JULY 16, 2023 / 11:11AM

DURATION: 1 hour, 12 minutes

ATTENDEES: 9

Board Call Only

WHAT HAPPENED: The BOA was alerted regarding a 68-year-old female in cardiac distress on the Crater Trail on Teton Pass. As the BOA was on a conference call, the party called back to report the hiker was doing fine and that they were declining SAR. One SAR volunteer happened to be on an adjacent trail and made contact with the RP and patient and walked down the trail with them to their personal vehicle.

INJURED HIKER ON MOUNT GLORY

JULY 16, 2023 / 1:54PM

DURATION:

4 hours, 1 minutes

ATTENDEES: 20

WHAT HAPPENED: TCSAR was notified regarding an injured male who was hiking on the Mount Glory bootpack. The 70-year-old man from Idaho Falls was about three-quarters up the trail when he injured his knee and could not continue. The man was hiking with a companion, and both were fit and had experience in backcountry hiking. However, hot temperatures on the south-facing slope, little shade, and the steep, loose trail made for challenging conditions.

The response from TCSAR called for several volunteers to hike up the trail from the Teton Pass summit. They carried water, energy drinks, and the wheeled litter. Volunteers located the patient about an hour after the emergency call and provided initial patient care. They then packaged him for transport down the mountain in the wheeled litter. Due to the steep aspect, the team used a rope belay while other volunteers wheeled and carried the litter down to the parking lot at Hwy 22. Transport to the road took about 1 hour. The man declined an ambulance ride and instead decided to self-transport with his companion to higher medical care.



INJURED MOUNTAIN BIKER AT MAIL CABIN

JULY 18, 2023 / 12:46PM

DURATION: 19 minutes

ATTENDEES: 19

WHAT HAPPENED: A male mountain biker was riding up Mail Cabin when he crashed and sustained a puncture wound to his leg. As the TCSAR team was being called out, the group called back to say they had applied a pressure bandage to the wound and stopped the bleeding. They were walking back to the trailhead and did not require further assistance.

MISSING PADDLE BOARDER

JULY 18, 2023 / 4:30PM

DURATION: 45 minutes

ATTENDEES: 14

WHAT HAPPENED: A rafter called 911 after their partner, a female paddle boarder, went missing after going through a wave train about a mile upstream of the South Park Landing. The paddle boarder had been missing for over an hour and had not yet appeared at the boat landing. TCSAR was paged to the hangar while one volunteer went directly to the boat ramp and another drove up the levee. That volunteer found the paddle boarder near the wave train and brought her back to the boat ramp where she met the rest of her party. The rest of the team stood down.

INJURED HORSE RIDER AT BROKEN ARROW

JULY 19, 2023 / 5:53PM

DURATION: 2 hours, 1 minute

ATTENDEES: 16

WHAT HAPPENED: TCSAR mobilized after being notified of an 11-year-old boy who had been bucked off a horse about a quarter of a mile from the Broken Arrow access road. A team of four TCSAR volunteers drove the RZR to the scene, and then transported the patient via wheeled litter back to the RZR for transport to the trailhead.

PLB ACTIVATION ON PYRAMID PEAK

JULY 25, 2023 / 10:32AM

DURATION: 44 minutes

ATTENDEES: 9

Board Call Only

WHAT HAPPENED: Dispatch received a notification from the Air Force Rescue Coordination Center (AFRCC) for a Personal Locator Beacon activation near the Pyramid Peak area of the Gros Ventre Mountains. All contact numbers for the PLB went to voicemail. The BOA was paged and issued a helicopter request to Grand Teton National Park to see if a ship was available to fly to the activation site. As that request played out, AFRCC reported that it was a false activation. All teams stood down.

STUCK ADAPTIVE HIKER AT JHMR

JULY 25, 2023 / 3:25PM

DURATION: 1 hour, 32 minutes

ATTENDEES: 6

JHMR MOUNTAIN PATROL ASSIST

WHAT HAPPENED: A 43-year-old male in a wheelchair had gotten stuck while hiking with his family on the Rock Springs Loop off the Aerial Tram at Jackson Hole Mountain Resort. The man's family had gone ahead and he got to the saddle between Cody Peak and the tram but then couldn't get back up. TCSAR BOA contacted JHMR Mountain Patrol, who responded and helped the man get back to the top of the tram.

INJURED MOUNTAIN BIKER ON FERRIN'S TRAIL

JULY 27, 2023 / 3:25PM

DURATION: 3 hours, 35 minutes

ATTENDEES: 14

WHAT HAPPENED: TCSAR was notified of an injured mountain biker on the Ferrin's Trail. The man was reportedly descending the trail when he hit a stump and sustained a lower leg injury. TCSAR volunteers responded with multiple teams: one RZR drove to the top of Snow King; another RZR drove to a location where the Hagen Highway meets the Sink-or-Swim trail; and three volunteers rode their mountain bikes up the trail to the patient. The first volunteer arrived on scene via mountain bike at 4:15 p.m. and provided initial patient care to stabilize the injury.

Once other volunteers arrived, they packaged the man for transport in the wheeled litter. The team was able to navigate the litter about 1.7 miles down the trail to the RZR on the Hagen Highway, which transported the man out of the backcountry to a waiting ambulance.

GARMIN ACTIVATION ON TOGWOTEE PASS

JULY 29, 2023 / 10:06AM

DURATION: 4 hours, 39 minutes

ATTENDEES: 9

GTNP ASSIST



WHAT HAPPENED: TCSAR was paged after dispatch received a Garmin inReach activation from the Moccasin Basin Trail south of Two Ocean Peak on Togwotee Pass. The page indicated that a 68-year-old female sustained a serious leg injury. Due to the remote location and nature of injury, the BOA requested the GTNP helicopter, which was available and flew to the scene. Rangers were able to package the patient and fly her out of the backcountry, while the patient's husband stayed behind. After dropping off the patient, the helicopter returned to pick up the husband.

OVERDUE CAVERS IN DARBY CANYON

JULY 29, 2023 / 10:01PM

DURATION: 1 hour, 44 minutes

ATTENDEES: 5

WHAT HAPPENED: The BOA was paged for a report of an overdue party of three who hadn't returned from a trip to the Darby Ice Cave. As a TCSAR volunteer drove to the trailhead to check, he met the overdue party and all stood down.

INJURED MOUNTAIN BIKER ON PUTT-PUTT TRAIL

JULY 31, 2023 / 5:50PM

DURATION: 1 hour, 10 minutes

ATTENDEES: 17

WHAT HAPPENED: Dispatch paged TCSAR after receiving an emergency call for an injured mountain biker on the Putt-Putt Trail in Cache Creek. The page concerned a 56-year-old woman with a hip injury. TCSAR was paged to the hangar while three volunteers responded directly to the patient. Once on scene, the volunteers found she was able to walk to the trailhead. No further assistance was required.

INJURED HORSE RIDER AT GRANITE CREEK

AUGUST 4, 2023 / 4:56PM

DURATION: 4 hours, 4 minutes

ATTENDEES: 16

GTNP ASSIST



WHAT HAPPENED: TCSAR was notified of a 57-year-old man who became injured after falling off his horse in the Granite Creek area of the Gros Ventre Mountains. Given the nature of his injuries and remote location, the team requested helicopter assistance from Teton Interagency Helitack. Helitack released the ship and flew to the TCSAR hangar in Jackson, picked up a team of TCSAR volunteers, and choppered to the site to evacuate the patient.

CRASH NOTIFICATION AT SODA FORK

AUGUST 7, 2023 / 1:13PM

DURATION: 1 hour, 13 minutes

ATTENDEES: 8

WHAT HAPPENED: Dispatch paged the BOA after receiving an automated Apple satellite text-to-911 notification of a hard fall in the Soda Fork area. The BOA decided that such notifications should be considered similar to other crash detection apps as a third party report. One board member called an outfitter with a horse camp at the location of the notification but calls went to voicemail. Dispatch continued to attempt to contact the phone owner with no response. However, the phone continued to send 15-minute location updates showing it moving from Pacific Creek to Jackson. The RP finally called in with a message saying they had made it to the hospital.

HIKER SPRAYED WITH BEAR SPRAY

AUGUST 8, 2023 / 8:41AM

DURATION: 1 hour, 10 minutes

ATTENDEES: 8

Board Call Only

WHAT HAPPENED: Dispatch paged the BOA after receiving a notice from an Garmin inReach that a 15-year-old male had been sprayed in the face with bear spray while on a group outing in the Shoal Falls area. Garmin was checking to see if the boy needed a SAR response and would call back with further information. Reactions to bear spray

INJURED MOUNTAIN BIKER IN PHILLIPS CANYON

AUGUST 8, 2023 / 12:25PM

DURATION:

3 hours, 19 minutes

ATTENDEES: 12

WHAT HAPPENED: A local man in his 60s crashed after attempting to ride his mountain bike across the log bridge at the head of Phillips Canyon. He sustained numerous injuries and was only able to get word out about his emergency by using the BackcountrySOS app, which functions as a text-to-911 with minimal cellular service. After receiving the distress notification, dispatch contacted TCSAR, which mobilized

a response up the trail from Fish Creek Road. After reaching the patient, the volunteers packaged him for transport. They placed the man in the wheeled litter and transported him down the trail, rotating positions when the trail grew steep or rutted, and transferred him to a waiting ambulance on Fish Creek Road.

BackcountrySOS is a free smartphone app that provides local dispatch with your exact location and nature of the emergency. It works with minimal cell service where voice calls are not possible, and is available in 12 counties across the Intermountain West.

DOWNLOAD
backcountrySOS



generally diminish after 30 minutes unless the patient has an underlying condition such as asthma. The patient ended up being able to walk out on his own and no further SAR resources were necessary.

INJURED HORSE RIDER AT SODA FORK

AUGUST 9, 2023 / 8:51AM

DURATION: 2 hours, 24 minutes

ATTENDEES: 7

AIR IDAHO ASSIST



WHAT HAPPENED: The BOA received an alert for a 60-year-old female who had fallen off her horse in Soda Fork drainage. The report noted multiple injuries but not life-threatening, and that the group was requesting helicopter extraction. The BOA contacted Grand Teton National Park SAR Coordinator to request use of the park's ship, which was available but unable to fly due to dense fog. The BOA then contacted Air Idaho, a private air ambulance, which accepted the mission. The Air Idaho ship landed near the patient and flew her to Idaho Falls for further treatment.

INJURED MOUNTAIN BIKER ON PARALLEL TRAIL

AUGUST 12, 2023 / 12:12PM

DURATION: 1 hour, 3 minutes

ATTENDEES: 22

WHAT HAPPENED: A mountain biker sustained injuries after crashing on the Parallel Trail on Teton pass. TCSAR sent two teams into the field. During the response, the patient was able to walk up to the highway where he met TCSAR and was then transferred to an ambulance.

MISSING HIKER IN ALASKA BASIN

AUGUST 14, 2023 / 9:23PM

DURATION: 1 hour, 27 minutes

ATTENDEES: 7

Board Call Only

WHAT HAPPENED: The BOA received a page regarding a 48-year-old male who'd become missing from his party as they hiked down from Alaska Basin. The man had not been seen in four or five hours, but was equipped with a sleeping bag, a bear canister of food, firearm and bear spray, but no phone or map. The BOA decided to wait for further information since he was prepared to spend the night.

The RP later called back to say the missing person had been located and all was fine.

INJURED BACKPACKER NEAR MOOSE CREEK

AUGUST 17, 2023 / 4:19PM

DURATION: 3 hours, 1 minute

ATTENDEES: 16

GTNP ASSIST



WHAT HAPPENED: Dispatch received an inReach SOS from an area just north of Phillips Pass at the head of Moose Creek. The incident concerned a 68-year-old woman who was too injured to make it out on her own. TCSAR was paged and responded with a wheeled litter team to Phillips Ridge. Due to the distance of the evacuation, time of day, and approaching weather, TCSAR also issued a helicopter request to the GTNP. The park accepted the helicopter request and performed a short-haul operation of the patient to a higher location. Then they loaded her into the ship and transported her to a waiting ambulance at the LZ in Teton Village.

DISTRESSED BACKPACKER IN ALASKA BASIN

AUGUST 20, 2023 / 8:00AM

DURATION: 7 hours, 54 minutes

ATTENDEES: 8

WHAT HAPPENED: TCSAR was paged after dispatch received an inReach SOS from a 31-year-old female near Sunset Lake in Alaska Basin. The woman was unable to continue because of a bowel blockage. TCSAR communicated directly with the subject and encouraged her to continue to drink fluids and attempt to clear the obstruction. Later in the afternoon the party reported they were three miles from the trailhead and the woman was OK.

INJURED MOUNTAIN BIKER IN GAME CREEK

AUGUST 25, 2023 / 4:01PM

DURATION: 4 hours, 34 minutes

ATTENDEES: 11

WHAT HAPPENED: TCSAR was notified of an injured mountain biker in the Game Creek drainage. The injured man, a local in his 70s, was discovered by three other mountain bikers, who came on the scene to find the man face down in the bushes on the side of the trail, still clipped into his pedals. He was conscious and reported severe pain from multiple injuries.

Without cell service, one mountain biker pedaled down Game Creek and placed a 911 call, which was routed to TCSAR volunteers. The other two bikers stayed with the patient. TCSAR volunteers responded with a RZR vehicle mounted with two mountain bikes to the Game Creek trailhead. At the trailhead, the RZR continued up the dirt road as far as they could before two volunteers hopped on the mountain bikes to pedal up to the patient. Two other volunteers hiked in from the RZR carrying a suck bag (an inflatable full body splint) and wheeled litter.

When they found the injured biker, they assessed his status and transported him down the trail in the wheeled litter. A Teton County Sheriff Deputy accompanied the volunteers and assisted in the operation. Once they reached the trailhead, the team transferred the patient to a waiting ambulance with Jackson Hole Fire/EMS.

HELI REQUEST FROM SUBLETTE COUNTY

AUGUST 27, 2023 / 4:43PM

DURATION: 28 minutes

ATTENDEES: 6

Board Call Only



WHAT HAPPENED: Tip Top Search & Rescue in Sublette County called TCSAR to request helicopter assistance for an injured climber in the Wind River Mountains. The request was authorized and the call was transferred to Grand Teton National Park.

HELI REQUEST FROM FREMONT COUNTY

AUGUST 28, 2023 / 10:42AM

DURATION: 0 minutes

ATTENDEES: 2

Board Call Only



WHAT HAPPENED: Fremont County Search & Rescue called the TCSAR office to request helicopter assistance for a female SAR member who'd become severely injured while responding to the previous day's callout in the Winds. The official request was delivered to GTNP SAR Coordinator through the dispatch center.



MISSING CHILD IN PAINTBRUSH SUBDIVISION

AUGUST 29, 2023 / 3:00PM
DURATION: 1 hour, 18 minutes
ATTENDEES: 15

WHAT HAPPENED: The BOA was notified regarding a 17-year-old female missing in the Paintbrush subdivision. Law enforcement was actively looking for her and requested SAR as additional resources. The team was paged to respond to the hangar but stood down after law enforcement located the girl.

MISSING HIKERS IN TETON CANYON

SEPTEMBER 9, 2023 / 9:00PM
DURATION: 17 minutes
ATTENDEES: 7
Board Call Only

WHAT HAPPENED: The BOA was called regarding two overdue hikers in Teton Canyon. Dispatch attempted to ping one hiker's phone when TCSAR got a message from the RP that the missing persons were at the trailhead and all was fine.

LOST HIKERS IN PHILLIPS CANYON

SEPTEMBER 11, 2023 / 5:25PM
DURATION: 1 hour, 30 minutes
ATTENDEES: 7
Board Call Only

WHAT HAPPENED: The BOA was alerted regarding two day hikers who had become lost and disoriented on the Phillips Pass Trail. TCSAR contacted the hikers and tried to explain how to find the coordinates on their phone and which direction to take on the trail. As the couple neared the trailhead, a TCSAR member hiked into the field, found the hikers, and all was well.

INJURED CLIMBER IN TETON CANYON

SEPTEMBER 14, 2023 / 8:57AM
DURATION: 3 hours, 34 minutes
ATTENDEES: 8

WHAT HAPPENED: A local man in his early 60s became

injured after falling during a climb in Teton Canyon. The man ended up on a ledge about 20 feet off the ground, with 200 feet of rocky scree separating him from the trail. The climber called a friend, who contacted TCSAR saying they needed a helicopter.

Working with the Grand Teton National Park's SAR Coordinator, TCSAR requested assistance from agencies in Salt Lake City and Bozeman, but found that those ships were at least two hours out.

Meanwhile, three friends were on scene to help assist the injured climber, and TCSAR dispatched two volunteers up the trail to further assess his condition. Once on scene, the volunteers confirmed that helicopter assistance was not needed, and they helped the companions transport the patient in a litter down the trail. At the trailhead, the man self-transported to higher medical care.

INJURED CLIMBERS IN CURTIS CANYON

SEPTEMBER 15, 2023 / 4:50PM
DURATION: 1 hour, 25 minutes
ATTENDEES: 21

WHAT HAPPENED: TCSAR was paged for two 53-year-old husband-and-wife climbers who were injured by rockfall at the base of the crag in Curtis Canyon. A TCSAR member spoke directly with the female who advised she did lose consciousness for a minute but was awake and oriented. She was able to walk and the couple self-rescued to their personal vehicle where they were met by a TCSAR volunteer. They declined further assistance and decided to self-transport to the hospital.

DISTRESSED HIKER ON FACE TRAIL

SEPTEMBER 16, 2023 / 2:00PM
DURATION: 2 hours, 48 minutes
ATTENDEES: 7

WHAT HAPPENED: Dispatch received a call from two females hiking down the Face Trail on Table Mountain. A 22-year-old female was experiencing nausea and vomiting with abdominal pain. The women didn't think they could continue on their own and requested assistance. One TCSAR volunteer responded to the trailhead but the women called 10 minutes later saying they didn't need help, and that they had food, water and a cell phone. Two hours later,

the women called back to say they were now lost. A TCSAR member got on the phone with the hikers to explain they would reach the trailhead by hiking another five minutes downhill. Once they reached their car, they called back to say they were safe.

HORSE ACCIDENT AT TURPIN MEADOWS

SEPTEMBER 19, 2023 / 1:14PM
DURATION: 1 hour, 57 minutes
ATTENDEES: 4

WHAT HAPPENED: The BOA was paged for an inReach SOS activation near Turpin Meadows for a 40-year-old male with serious injuries after being bucked off a horse. TCSAR was able to communicate via inReach to the RP and received information that the patient was about 100 feet off the trail. TCSAR requested a GTNP ambulance and one personnel from the Moran Fire Station to respond. The ambulance and fire crew were able to load the patient into the ambulance but then was transferred to Air Idaho for transport to Eastern Idaho Regional Medical Center.

OVERDUE HUNTERS IN THE GROS VENTRE

SEPTEMBER 21, 2023 / 7:05AM
DURATION: 16 minutes
ATTENDEES: 4
Board Call Only

WHAT HAPPENED: The BOA was paged regarding a father and son who were planning on camping near Bacon Ridge and hadn't checked in that morning. The pair had called the previous night during a large rainstorm near Kelly Warm Springs but decided they would continue despite the rain. During a conference call with dispatch, the campers were determined to be safe and sound.

LOST HUNTER AT LOST LAKE

SEPTEMBER 23, 2023 / 9:19PM
DURATION: 13 hours, 7 minutes
ATTENDEES: 23

WHAT HAPPENED: The BOA received a page for a 61-year-old male hunter who failed to return after a short hike in the Lost Lake area. Incident Command developed search areas that night and paged the full TCSAR team at 5:30 a.m. the next morning to begin the search. A forward ops post

was established near the Lost Lake trailhead. As teams were arriving at forward ops, the missing hunter walked out on his own and the mission was stood down.

DISTRESSED HUNTER AT MOSQUITO LAKE

OCTOBER 15, 2023 / 5:59PM
DURATION: 1 hour, 41 minutes
ATTENDEES: 5
AIR IDAHO ASSIST



WHAT HAPPENED: The BOA was called for a 66-year-old male who had a seizure near Mosquito Lake on Union Pass. Due to time of day, Air Idaho was called and flew to the patient and transported him to higher medical care.

LINCOLN COUNTY HELICOPTER REQUEST

OCTOBER 26, 2023 / 6:37PM
DURATION: 25 hours
ATTENDEES: 13
LINCON COUNTY SAR ASSIST



WHAT HAPPENED: TCSAR helicopter and ground resources were requested by Lincoln County Search & Rescue to help search for a missing 69-year-old male hunter near LaBarge, Wyo. The hunter had been missing since October 25 and had already spent one night out. The helicopter and RZR teams were sent with three TCSAR members each. Both teams spent most of the day searching around the hunting camp until word came over the radio that the missing hunter had walked into a separate hunting camp approximately 18 miles from his last known point, cold and tired, but otherwise OK. TCSAR teams returned to the hangar in Jackson.

INJURED SPEED FLIER ON SNOW KING MOUNTAIN

NOVEMBER 20, 2023 / 1:11PM
DURATION: 2 hours, 39 minutes
ATTENDEES: 14
SNOW KING SKI PATROL ASSIST



WHAT HAPPENED: A 21-year-old local man sustained injuries when he struck the side of Snow King Mountain after attempting to speed fly from the mountain's summit. The accident occurred about three-quarters of the way up Exhibition, the main ski run below the summit

(continued)

THANK YOU

We are grateful for the partnerships that help our team to be successful in the field.

WITH GRATITUDE

Teton County Sheriff's Office and Dispatch, Fremont County SAR, GTNP Jenny Lake Climbing Rangers, USFS Blackrock Ranger District, Jackson Hole Fire/EMS, JHMR Ski and Mountain Patrol, Grand Targhee Ski and Bike Patrol, Lincoln County SAR, Snow King Mountain, Star Valley SAR, Teton County Idaho SAR, Bonneville County Idaho SAR, Wyoming Department of Transportation, Bridger-Teton Avalanche Center, and Togwotee Mountain Lodge.



gondola. Speed flying is similar to paragliding but uses a smaller wing in order to fly faster and closer to the ground.

Snow King Mountain Patrol were first on scene and provided initial patient assessment and care. Due to steep, icy conditions on the north-facing slope, patrol requested helicopter assistance. TCSAR responded with a ground team of five volunteers, and a short-haul team of three plus the pilot in the TCSAR helicopter.

Short-haul is a rescue method in which a patient and rescuer are connected via a long rope to the belly of the helicopter for a short flight out of the backcountry. It is most often used in steep, unforgiving terrain where landing the helicopter is not an option.

As the helicopter approached, a group of six TCSAR volunteers and ski patrol members provided assistance to stabilize the patient on the ground. The short-haul team then clipped the patient to the helicopter and transported him to a landing zone (LZ) and waiting ambulance at the base of Snow King.

TCSAR commends the response from Snow King Mountain Patrol, and appreciates the partnership that enabled the team to bring this mission to a successful close.

POTENTIAL AVALANCHE RESCUE IN GRAND TARGHEE BACKCOUNTRY

NOVEMBER 25, 2023 / 11:02AM

DURATION: 45 minutes

ATTENDEES: 9

GRAND TARGHEE SKI PATROL ASSIST

WHAT HAPPENED: GrandTarghee Ski Patrol notified the BOA that it was investigating a report of an avalanche outside the resort boundary in the area known as Steve Baugh. A debris field was spotted near a skintrack. Patrol did a beacon and dog search of the slide, which came up clear. Patrol notified dispatch that they were pretty sure the slide was from the previous day and that they were headed back inbounds. No further response was required.

TCSAR Volunteers respond to calls 24/7/365.



Thank you to these local employers for their flexibility and support of our volunteers!

- AMERICAN AVALANCHE ASSOCIATION
- AMERICAN AVALANCHE INSTITUTE
- BERLIN ARCHITECTS
- BLACK FOX RESCUE INSTITUTE
- CAPSTONE CONSTRUCTION & MANAGEMENT, INC.
- FACTORY IT
- IDFIVE
- IF YOU'RE NEEDY CALL WIEDIE
- JACKSON HOLE ANGLERS
- JACKSON HOLE CHILDREN'S MUSEUM
- JACKSON HOLE FIRE/EMS
- JACKSON HOLE MOUNTAIN GUIDES
- JACKSON HOLE MOUNTAIN RESORT
- JACKSON HOLE SKI CLUB
- JEN REDDY INK
- JOHNSTON CPA
- LOCKHART CATTLE CO.
- MOUNTAIN PHYSIO
- MULTIVIEW FINANCIAL SOFTWARE
- OPS STRATEGIES
- SNOW KING MOUNTAIN
- SPARKS & REC LLC
- ST. JOHN'S HEALTH
- SUMMIT ENVIRONMENTAL SOLUTIONS
- TETON BEAR PRODUCTS
- TETON CONSERVATION DISTRICT
- TETON COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
- TETON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
- TETON MAPLE EXCHANGE
- THE GYM @ JH INDOOR
- TOWN OF JACKSON
- WIND RIVER CAPITAL MANAGEMENT
- WOUNDED BEAR MEDICINE

SEARCH AND RESCUE LOCATIONS / DECEMBER 1, 2022 - NOVEMBER 30, 2023

9 OTHER COUNTIES

12

CARIBOU-TARGHEE NAT'L FOREST

2

GRAND TETON NATIONAL PARK

17

TOGWOTEE/TETON WILDERNESS

15

TETON PASS

19

JHMR BACKCOUNTRY

5

SNAKE RIVER RANGE

7

TOWN OF JACKSON

6

GROS VENTRE MOUNTAINS

7

GREATER SNOW KING

4

GRANITE CREEK

Dec. 1, 2022 - May 30, 2023: 64 calls

June 1, 2023 - Nov. 30, 2023: 48 calls



TCSAR HELICOPTER ARRIVES

THE MISSION CRITICAL CAMPAIGN IS COMPLETE



After raising \$7.25 million in private donations from roughly 2,000 individuals over the nine-month campaign known as Mission Critical, TCSAR Foundation handed over the title and deed of a new H125 rescue helicopter to Teton County in October 2023.

The County now owns the ship and employs the chief pilot through the Teton County Sheriff's Office, which oversees SAR operations as stipulated by Wyoming state statute. The process has been a prime example of the community benefits resulting from the public/private partnership between the TCSAR Foundation, TCSAR volunteers, the Sheriff's Office, and County officials.

It also would not have happened without enormous community involvement and support. And for that we will be forever grateful.

The helicopter was manufactured by Airbus at a factory in France, and then shipped to EuroTec's facility in Kansas. The tail number—N91122—is unique to Teton County, Wyoming.

The helicopter completion process showcased EuroTec's unique expertise in helicopter modifications and its close relationships with Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEMs), enabling them to offer a comprehensive list of options to enhance the H125's capabilities. From its original factory green color to a custom-designed red exterior with a mountainscape paint scheme of TCSAR's new logo, the end result is a state-of-the-art aircraft equipped for the challenging Search & Rescue missions required in Wyoming's rugged terrain.

KEY FEATURES AND ENHANCEMENTS OF THE CUSTOMIZED H125 INCLUDE:

- Swiss Rotor Services Door/ Maximum Pilot View Kit
- Astronics Max-Viz 2300 Enhanced Vision System
- BLR FastFin Kit
- Dart Basket
- Boost Cargo Hook
- Onboard Cargo Hook
- Bear Paws
- Avionics Panel Reconfiguration with Garmin Avionics Suite, Dual TDFM, US Forestry Kit, Flex Digital Battery ACU, SpiderTracks, Additional Antennas, and more.
- Custom Designed Paint Scheme with Ceramic Coating
- Vertical Flight Solutions True Blue Power TB20 Battery Kit

WHAT TO DO DURING A HELICOPTER RESCUE

THE FIRST FIVE MINUTES

1. Stay calm.
2. Are you safe? Is your group safe? GET SAFE!
3. Assess and manage life threats.
4. Make a plan.
5. Call 911 if you need more help.

MAKE YOURSELF VISIBLE



If you do need help, make yourself visible and wave your arms above your head in a V.

TUNE RADIOS TO "307"

The TCSAR helicopter can communicate directly to those on the ground via the "307" channel on handheld radio. Tune your device to channel 3, privacy code 07. This will allow crew members to communicate landing locations and other rescue protocols.

WHEN THE SHIP APPROACHES

As the ship approaches, secure your belongings so they don't get blown away by rotor wash (or worse, get blown into the helicopter) and leash or secure any dogs or pack animals.

Do not EVER approach a helicopter without SAR assistance.

WHAT NOT TO DO

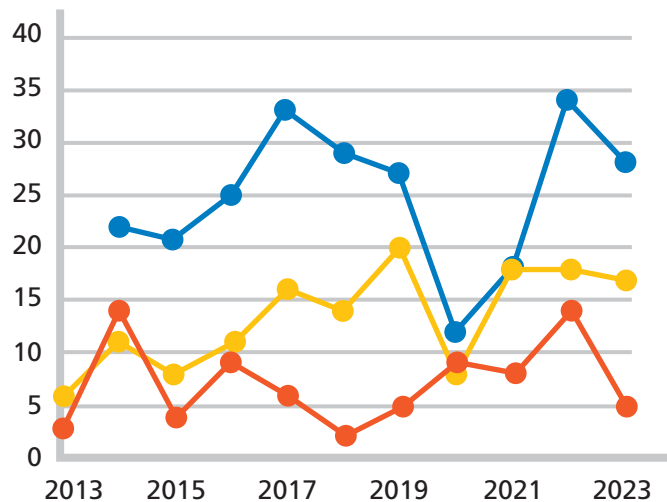


If you are not the party in need of help, ***do not ever wave to a helicopter.*** That could give false signals to the air crew and delay a response to the injured party.

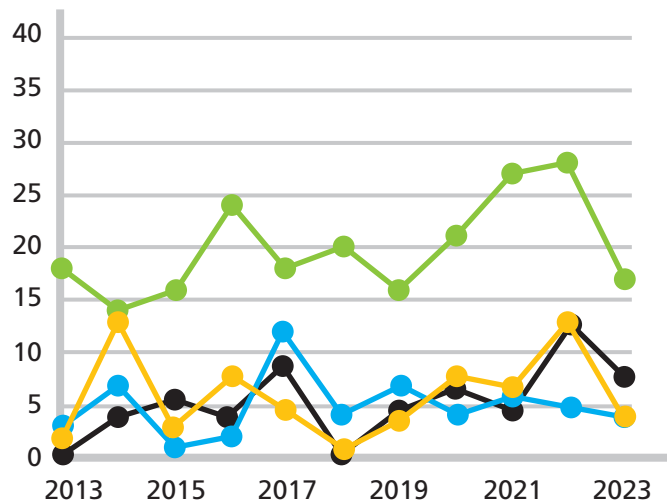
ANNUAL INCIDENTS BY THE NUMBERS

2013-2023 RESCUES BY ACTIVITY

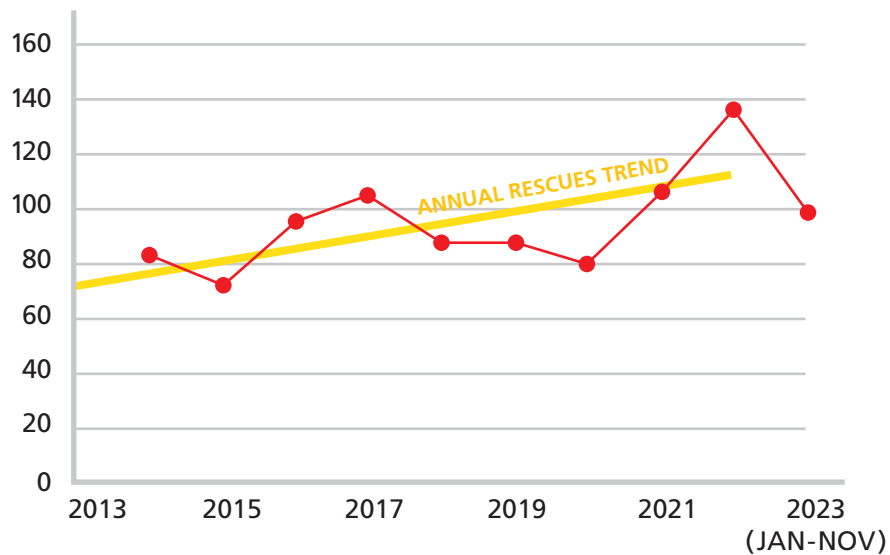
FALL / WINTER



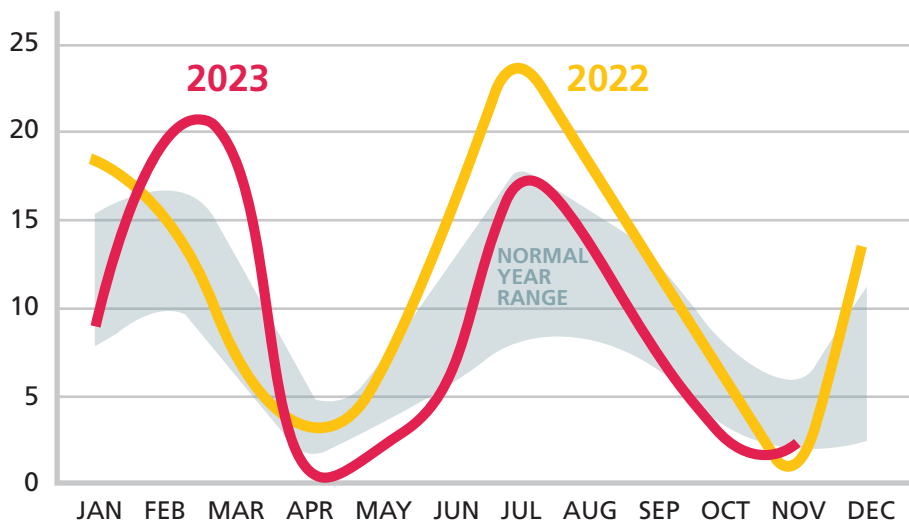
SPRING / SUMMER



2013-2023 RESCUES PER YEAR



2023 RESCUES BY MONTH





“BE 307 AWARE” BOOSTS BACKCOUNTRY COMMUNICATION ACROSS WYOMING

Being able to communicate in the backcountry is a key pillar of safety, especially during an emergency.

Thanks to a statewide effort, that is now much easier in Teton County and across Wyoming. Backcountry users equipped with two-way radios are now able to communicate directly with first responders during emergencies by using channel “307” anywhere in the state.

Using your two-way radio, such as a Backcountry Access BC Link or Rocky Talkie, simply dial your device to channel 3, privacy code 07. If Search & Rescue is looking for you, they will be able to directly communicate with you over that frequency. In places without cellular service, communicating via 307 on a radio has the potential to be a critical lifeline.

Known as “Be 307 Aware,” the program is a collaboration between the Wyoming State Search and Rescue (SAR) Council, the Wyoming Office of Homeland Security, and the Wyoming All Hazards Association.

Rescues can be hectic, especially for patients and their partners who need help. Being able to communicate with SAR provides an additional level of support and can speed up the response time.

The radio channel 307 can allow SAR members to relay information about a helicopter landing, when the injured party can expect the team to arrive, or important first aid advice. The new TCSAR helicopter can automatically tune into these frequencies during a rescue.

In a practical sense, a radio can aid communication among members of your party. They can help you relay info about snow conditions, for instance, or to help others avoid dangerous hazards they might not be able to see.

This channel should only be used for emergencies.

THE WYOMING STATE SAR COUNCIL OFFERS THE FOLLOWING STEPS TO INCREASE YOUR CHANCES OF BEING RESCUED:

- Buy an FRS/GMRS capable radio or ‘walkie talkie’ and program the 307 channel into the radio. Program to UHF 462.6125 Privacy Code 85.4 or Channel 3 and Privacy code 07 (307).
- If you become stranded, searchers looking for you can attempt to contact you on this channel. Be advised it is not a 911 type channel and not actively monitored.
- Always tell someone where you are going and when you plan on coming back.
- Ask local authorities if a check-in form is available.
- Always check the weather and avalanche forecast.



GET THE APP SAVE A LIFE

This summer, a mountain biker used BackcountrySOS to notify Teton County Search & Rescue after he took a bad crash in Phillips Canyon.

Alone and with minimal cellular service, he initiated the app, allowing TCSAR volunteers to find and treat him in quick order. It is just one example of the many times the app has been used since it was launched by TCSAR Foundation with a grant from the Ladd Family Foundation in 2018.

Backcountry users who don’t own radios are encouraged to download the BackcountrySOS app, which enables anyone having an emergency to provide their status and precise location to Search & Rescue personnel. The app requires no setup or login. Unlike two-way radios, however, BackcountrySOS does not allow back and forth communication with emergency responders, and the app does require a small amount of cell service.

BackcountrySOS is available in 12 counties across the Intermountain West. [Learn more at BackcountrySOS.com.](https://www.backcountrysos.com)



DOWNLOAD THE APP



LIFT-SERVED BACKCOUNTRY ACCIDENTS ON THE RISE

BACKCOUNTRY RESPONSE IS HANDLED BY NORTH AMERICA'S MOST UNIQUE SAR PARTNERSHIP: TCSAR, JHMR SKI PATROL, AND GRAND TETON NATIONAL PARK

Last winter, there were 19 rescue calls in the Jackson Hole Mountain Resort backcountry. That amounts to the largest call volume for that zone in at least the last 10 years. The spike in calls also comes after several years of consecutive decreases in incident numbers in the JHMR backcountry. This trend reversal shows that skiers and snowboarders exiting the gates need to ramp up their safety protocols and recognize the consequences of accessing uncontrolled terrain.

During last winter, ski patrollers handled 12 of the 19 calls, a testament to the extent of resort personnel working to assist in rescues that happen outside their gates. Yet there were also several rescues that included serious injuries that could have ended with tragic consequences if not for the keen partnership between ski patrol, TCSAR volunteers, and Grand Teton National Park.

As we welcome another winter, last season serves as a stark reminder that skiers and snowboarders exiting the gates need to heed the words of the tram operator as they glide into the summit dock: "If you don't know, don't go."

"Probably the biggest thing we have noticed over time is that seemingly less people are carrying avalanche rescue gear into the backcountry with them, and many people don't appear to know where they are going," says Drew Kneeland, JHMR Ski Patrol Director. "These seem to be difficult concepts to convey to people as they are focused on the skiing rather than the hazards."





© Andy Bardon

AS RESCUE PERSONNEL ADVISE, IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT ALL PERSONS LEAVING THE RESORT BOUNDARY DO THE FOLLOWING:

- Carry the proper avalanche safety equipment (beacon, shovel, probe), and know how to use it.
- Have a formal avalanche education, a partner, and an awareness of where you are going and when you will be back.
- Recognize that a rescue is not guaranteed, and that you may have to self-rescue. First responders will do everything they can to help an injured or lost party during an emergency, but dangerous conditions, weather, and darkness may prevent them from being able to reach you.

The unified response from multiple agencies during a backcountry callout at Jackson Hole is unique for North America. When JHMR opened its backcountry gates in the winter of 1999/2000, it created a critical need for Search & Rescue services outside the resort boundary. Anything to the south of the resort is the jurisdiction of the Teton County Sheriff, who oversees volunteer SAR services for the county. Anything to the west and north of the resort is inside Grand Teton National Park, whose SAR services are run by the Jenny Lake Climbing Rangers. During a rescue mission in these areas, JHMR Ski Patrol coordinates with TCSAR and GTNP depending on the situation.

“JHMR is a key partner of ours. The nature of our respective business and responsibilities require us to work together,” said TCSAR Chief Advisor Cody Lockhart. “When an accident occurs outside of the JHMR boundaries, the responsibility to provide a rescue lies with TCSAR. But the on-the-ground reality is that we do it together. During an emergency, ski patrollers and TCSAR volunteers work together to come up with the best rescue solution for the patient. Oftentimes that means the ski patrol does much of the actual rescue. Our combined cultures fit well together and we have a long history of working together to help folks out that have gotten into trouble in the backcountry surrounding JHMR.”

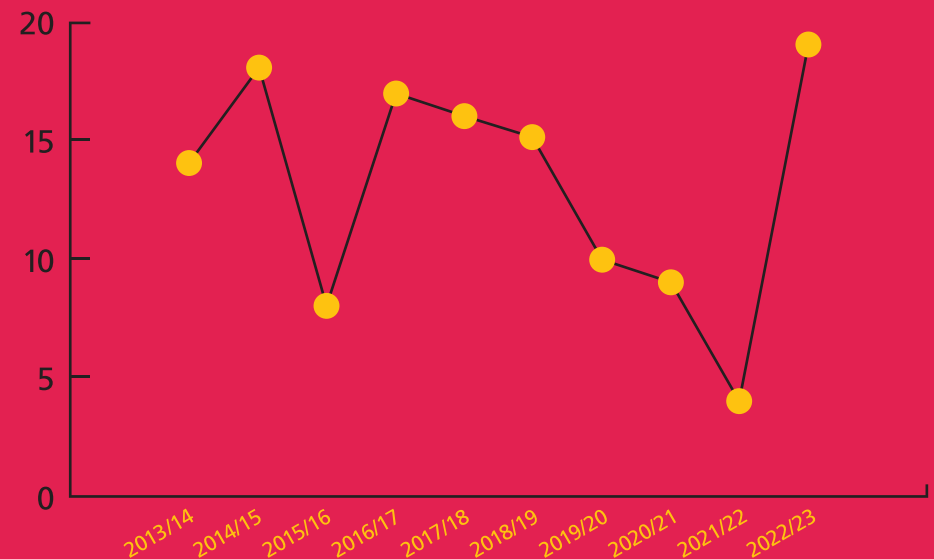
The partnership exists today to make sure there is a unified response to backcountry emergencies. But if last winter was any indication, it shows that skiers and snowboarders themselves need to also shoulder that responsibility in order to reduce the likelihood of accidents.

10 YEARS OF BACKCOUNTRY GATE SURVEYS AT JHMR

One of the ways to improve skier and snowboarder awareness is the TCSAR Foundation’s backcountry gate surveys. This winter, the Foundation will once again have community volunteers stationed at various JHMR backcountry gates to ask questions of those leaving the resort boundary. It marks the 10th consecutive winter of data collection at the JHMR backcountry gates, and is the longest running program of its type in the country. This unique program, born from the need to quantify the ‘denominator’ when thinking about incident tallying, allows us to better understand not just who is calling for help in lift-accessible avalanche terrain but who is going out-of-bounds in the first place.

Thanks to our partnership with JHMR and the committed team of Backcountry Zero survey volunteers, each of whom dedicate at least 10 days to data collection every winter, we have learned about the avalanche gear, formal education and group demographics of roughly 5,000 backcountry gate users since 2013.

IF YOU DON'T KNOW, DON'T GO RESCUES IN THE JHMR BACKCOUNTRY SINCE 2013



2022/2023 INCIDENTS IN FOCUS

GRANITE CANYON: 3	NO NAME: 3	HELI RESCUES: 6
ROCK SPRINGS: 10	CENTRAL COULOIR: 1	JHMR SKI PATROL: 12
FOUR PINES: 2	PUCKER FACE: 1	



 backcountry**sos**



Every Rescue has a Story

The Fine Line podcast series tells real stories of adventure, risk, and rescue in the backcountry of Jackson Hole, Wyoming. In each podcast, first-responders are joined in the studio by the people they rescued to discuss the ordeal from their respective points of view. The result is a riveting combination of mountain adventure, risk assessment, and consequence.

SEASON 7

episode 1

ANGEL FIRE: Broke Down in Hidden Corral

episode 2

NOWHERE TO HIDE: Avalanche on Albright

episode 3

PEDAL STRIKE: Short-haul Behind Snow King

episode 4

CORNICE FALL: Heli Rescue in the Salt River Range

episode 5

DECISION POINT: No Guarantees for Tomorrow

episode 6

CLASSIC ROCK: A Little Piece of Orange Grip

The Fine Line is produced by Backcountry Zero, and can be found on Apple, Spotify, SoundCloud, Google Podcasts, and is broadcast every Thursday at 2 p.m. on KHOL 89.1 FM in Jackson.



BE PREPARED. GET THE APP, SAVE A LIFE.

BackcountrySOS is a free smartphone app that functions as a text-to-911 in 12 counties across the Intermountain West. It works with minimal cellular service and helps first responders pinpoint the nature of your emergency and exact location.





2024 WISH LIST

TCSAR FOUNDATION RAISES MONEY TO SUPPORT TCSAR VOLUNTEERS WITH EQUIPMENT, PERSONAL WELLNESS AND ADVANCED TRAINING. OUR WISH LIST HIGHLIGHTS SOME OF OUR NEEDS FOR 2024 AND WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR FULL OR PARTIAL FUNDING FOR ANY OF THESE ITEMS.

To explore these options, please contact Donor Relations Officer Connor Nolan: connor@tetoncountysar.org.

TEAM SUPPORT & EQUIPMENT

\$40,000

**INCIDENT COMMAND
FORWARD OPS
VAN BUILDOUT**

Allows team to manage incidents and maintain communication in the most remote areas of Teton County and beyond.

\$35,000

NEW SNOWMOBILES

Two new snowmobiles to replace older models. Keeping these machines updated is crucial to accessing advanced riding terrain where injuries occur.

\$25,000

NEW AVALANCHE AIRBAGS

Purchase new avalanche airbags to ensure the safety of our volunteers while responding to avalanche calls.



\$5,000

GENERAL SPONSOR

By sponsoring education through Backcountry Zero, you are helping to reach the goal of fewer injuries and deaths in the Jackson Hole backcountry.

\$20,000

ADVANCED TECHNICAL RESCUE TRAINING

Rigging specialists will deepen their knowledge of rope use and extraction techniques.

\$20,000

TEAM WELLNESS

Support for TCSAR volunteers to pursue fitness, health, and self-care—key components to being Rescue Ready.

\$16,000

SWIFTWATER RESCUE TRAINING FOR THE TEAM

\$10,000

NEW PFDS (LIFE JACKETS) FOR THE TEAM

\$5,000 - \$10,000

THE FINE LINE PODCAST SPONSOR

The Fine Line podcast averages 10,000 listens per episode, and uses storytelling to build backcountry safety awareness. Podcast sponsors connect to an engaged audience year-round.

\$2,500

WILDERNESS ADVANCED MEDICAL TRAINING

\$2,000

NEW SHORT HAUL TEAM MEMBERS

Training and equipping five new members of the helicopter Short-Haul Team. This increase will support the expansion of helicopter operations into a year-round program.

\$2,500

ADVANCED SNOWMOBILE TRAINING FOR SEVEN TEAM MEMBERS



\$1,500

EXCLUSIVE WHAT'S IN YOUR PACK SPONSORSHIP

Have your branding featured on all marketing associated with our programming. One of the most effective ways to connect your business to TCSAR, Backcountry Zero, and the Jackson Hole community.

THE SHRIVER SOCIETY

RAY SHRIVER served on the Teton County Search & Rescue team from its inception in 1993 until his death in 2012. Ray died on February 15, 2012, in a helicopter crash while on a Search & Rescue mission. The Shriver Society was created in his honor. Your long-term gift with the Shriver Society augments training, equipment, and other ancillary support, directly impacting TCSAR's mission.



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

SHRIVER SOCIETY MEMBERS

DEBRA WUERSCH & ROBERT ABLONDI
SARA ADAMSON
JEFFREY & MADONNA AMES
JOSEPH ALBRIGHT & MARCIA KUNSTEL
PILAR BASS
MATT BEAL
ELIZABETH BECKER PARKER
MEGHAN BELL LORI
NICOLE BELLEFEUILLE
JOE & GAINOR BENNETT
DENNIS & CAROL BERRYMAN
STEPHANIE BRENNAN
LINDA & TONY BROOKS
LYONS & ZOOEY BROWN
MARY KATE BUCKLEY
JOHN & ELAINE CARNEY
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TOM & ANA CHAPMAN
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JONAS & SHERYL CLEM
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RYAN & SUSAN COMBS
JAN & CHUCK DAVIS
LOUISE DELAND
(IN MEMORY OF MICHAEL DELAND)
KRISTINE & ART DENTON
KURT EGGERS
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DINA MISHEV
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SASHA & MIKE ZOLIK

To learn how you can be involved, please contact Donor Relations Officer Connor Nolan: connor@tetoncountysar.org.

THANK YOU TO OUR BUSINESS & COMMUNITY SPONSORS



TETON COUNTY SEARCH + RESCUE

Arc'teryx

AT&T

Bank of Jackson Hole

Black Diamond

1 **Blizzard/Tecnica**

Community Foundation of JH

2 **Cutty's**

Fine Dining Restaurant Group

Flylow

Grand Teton Lodge Co.

Grand Targhee Ski and Summer Resort

Jackson Hole Mountain Resort

JH Backcountry Health

Kate's Real Food

Lockhart Cattle Co.

Long Reimer Winegar Beppler

Mammut

New West Knifeworks

Pica's Mexican Taqueria

Raintree Foundation

3 **Roadhouse Brewing Co.**

1 **Rossignol/Dynastar**

RPK3 Law LLC

Skinny Skis

Snow King Mountain Resort

STEP

Stio

Sweet Cheeks Meats

Teton County Sheriff's Office

The Liquor Store

4 **Trilipederma**

1 *Helping volunteers stay geared up for the winter season.*

2 *Always ready to fulfill last-minute orders to fortify our team.*

3 *Generously provides beverages for fundraising events.*

4 *Supplies our team with high-quality sunscreen.*



EDUCATION SPONSORS

American Avalanche Association

American Avalanche Institute

1 **AMPL**

Architectural Stone + Tile

Arc'teryx

Arva

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Bank of Jackson Hole

Backcountry Access

Black Diamond

Bridger-Teton Avalanche Center

Bridger-Teton National Forest

Classic Air Medical

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Jackson Hole

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Jackson Hole Mountain Resort

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Leadership Institute

Jackson Hole Ski &

Snowboard Club

2 **Kate's Real Food**

Mammut

Mountain Bike the Tetons

New West Knifeworks

Ortovox

Picnic

3 **RECCO**

REI

Roadhouse Brewing Co.

Skinny Skis

Snake River Brewing

4 **Snake River Fund**

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The Mountain Riding Lab

VIM

Women in the Tetons

Wounded Bear Medicine

WYDOT Avalanche Dept.

PREMIER SPONSORS

- Community Foundation of Jackson Hole
- Grand Teton National Park — Jenny Lake Rangers
- Teton County Sheriff's Office

1 *Helped us install beacon checkers at numerous popular trailheads around Teton County.*

2 *Supplies our Backcountry Gate surveyors with bars to hand out to the public.*

3 *Helps our workshop participants stay searchable in the backcountry.*

4 *Partners in the #justwearit swiftwater safety campaign.*

#JUSTWEARIT

Backcountry Zero is a vision of Teton County Search & Rescue Foundation to reduce incidents and fatalities in the backcountry through education and community outreach.

Since its inception in 2015, Backcountry Zero has evolved to not only engage the novice backcountry user through workshops and virtual resources, but also reach the highly skilled recreationalist who wants to acquire new skills, practice existing systems, and strengthen culture around preparedness and mentorship in high consequence terrain.

Backcountry Zero addresses all backcountry activities, no matter the season, and this summer ramped up efforts around swiftwater safety. Since 2017, TCSAR has responded to eight fatal swiftwater incidents in our area. Three of these fatalities occurred on July 4th and the majority involved boaters who were not wearing a PFD.

As an attempt to be proactive with our response to this trend, Backcountry Zero teamed up with the Snake River Fund this summer to develop comprehensive signage, virtual marketing materials, and educational opportunities for boaters to be better prepared on the water. The ad that streamed over the airwaves for eight weeks reminded folks to be alert on the water and serve as an ambassador of river safety. "If you see someone who may need assistance or appears to be in distress, be ready to lend a helping hand."



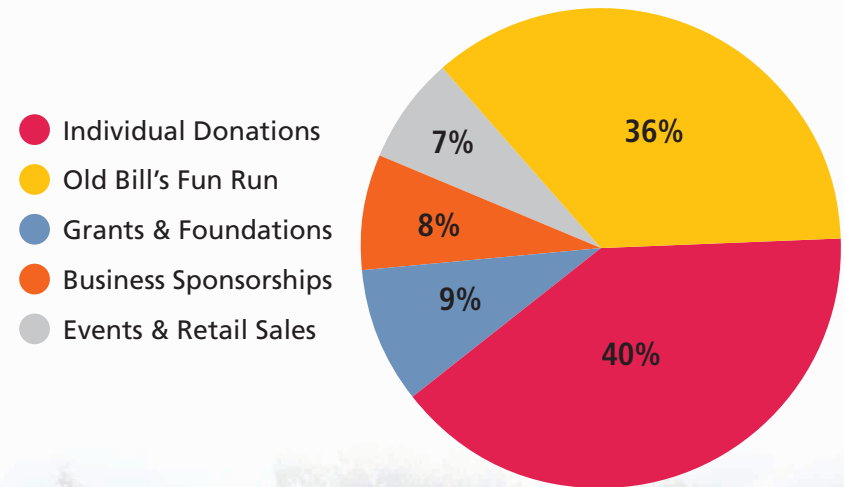
While it is hard to know the direct impact of this campaign, we are proud to report this summer saw zero fatalities on the river.



TETON COUNTY SEARCH + RESCUE FOUNDATION

The mission of the Teton County Search & Rescue Foundation is to support TCSAR through direct volunteer support, community education, and advocacy.

HOW TCSAR FOUNDATION IS FUNDED



Mountain Bike Safety Essentials Workshop at Mike Yokel Park.

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LEFT TO RIGHT: CONNOR NOLAN DONOR RELATIONS OFFICER, ANDRÉE DEAN OPERATIONS COORDINATOR, KEEGAN YOUNG EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, MADDIE JOHNSON PREVENTATIVE SAR MANAGER, CARYN FLANAGAN TEAM SERVICES COORDINATOR, MATT HANSEN COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR

FROM THE TCSAR FOUNDATION

For over 30 years, Teton County Search & Rescue has served our community through rescue response. In turn, the community has served rescue efforts through volunteerism, financial contributions, and awareness. This symbiotic relationship represents the heart of a great community like Jackson. True to the local spirit, we are now evolving our response capacity with a new and advanced helicopter and aviation program.

Since beginning my role as Executive Director on November 1, examples of community values and cooperation have been abundant both personally and professionally. Neighbors and colleagues have welcomed my wife and me with a warm embrace consistently; figuratively and literally. We're humbled and grateful.

There is a clear thread of neighbors helping neighbors at every turn. This is apparent for me at work, where TCSAR volunteers, the Foundation staff, and our Sheriff's Office coordinate constantly on how to best serve our community. At our core is the Team, the volunteers who train relentlessly to be there for you, on your worst day. Most volunteers have served for several years with ever-expanding expertise and commitment. It is the TCSAR mission and reputation that drew us here. The warm welcome confirms, daily, that we've made an incredible life-choice to serve this organization, town and county.

In one capacity or another I've been engaged with community support, public/private partnerships, and emergency response for many years. Combining integrity, leadership, cooperation, accountability, and flexibility, TCSAR is unparalleled against anything I've ever experienced. The energy is contagious and drives those associated to be better, to serve better. I plan to bring not only years of relevant experience, but substantial passion and drive to augment the great history and work we have and are accomplishing every day.

Fresh off the success of the Mission Critical helicopter campaign, TCSAR Foundation is hard at work planning Backcountry Zero programming for 2024, including new episodes of The Fine Line, "What's in Your Pack?" workshops, best backcountry practices for all experience levels, and classes curated specifically for our youth. All of this is thanks to support from our partners and entire community that values preventative Search & Rescue education. Such programming makes all of us better prepared for the backcountry, which ultimately better serves our volunteers.

I'm eager to get acquainted with you all as we begin this new adventure together. Please reach out and let's get to know one another.

KEEGAN YOUNG

TCSAR Foundation Executive Director



TCSAR Foundation

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Jackson, WY 83001

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