



# 2021 MID-YEAR REVIEW & **RESCUE REPORT**

# DEAR FRIENDS AND SUPPORTERS

The past six months have been big ones for TCSAR on several fronts. At a basic level, TCSAR is a team of volunteers that signed up to serve the community. However, the intensity of the 2020-2021 winter demonstrated the extent to which our team is supported by that same community we serve.

On the first day of 2021, we did two significant rescues, which set the pace for what turned out to be the busiest rescue cycle in TCSAR history. We had 42 rescues in the first two months of the year. So far in 2021, we have had 13 short-haul rescues, more than double the number we have done in previous years.

The pace and seriousness of these rescues pushed the team, and we decided it was time to add some new blood to the organization. We just finished the process of selecting and inviting a new class of volunteers—the first time in six years from our last crop of new recruits. We had overwhelming interest, and were inspired by how many community members are willing to serve. It was a daunting task to whittle down to the best 10 folks to add to the team. We are excited about the energy and excitement this new group of men and women bring to our existing team of volunteers.

We are also proud to have Mike Estes, a 28-year volunteer with the team, step into the SAR Coordinator role. The position, through the Sheriff's Office, is the sole paid employee in the organization, and we are extremely fortunate that Mike jumped to the opportunity to continue to serve the team and our community. With all that has been going in the world of Teton County Search and Rescue, I am proud to say the team pulled it all off without missing a beat. I could not be prouder of our team. It is rewarding to work alongside passionate and dedicated individuals that continue to build a culture of service, teamwork, compassion, hard work, and resiliency.

The members of TCSAR feel the love from our community. We appreciate all the support we receive from all parts of the community, whether it is through the financial contributions we receive, or the simple thank you we get at the post office. We are motivated to continue to do our part to serve those who need help in the Jackson Hole backcountry. There is nothing more fulfilling to the members of our team than making someone's worst day a little bit better.

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

GALEN PARKE, PLANNING ADVISOR

KC BESS, MEMBERSHIP ADVISOR

ANTHONY STEVENS, TRAINING ADVISOR

MIKE ESTES, TCSO SAR COORDINATOR

MATT CARR, TCSO SHERIFF

## FOUNDATION STAFF

STEPHANIE THOMAS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

CASEY LEWIS, DONOR RELATIONS DIRECTOR

MATT HANSEN, COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR

LIZ KING, PREVENTATIVE SAR MANAGER

CARYN FLANAGAN, DIRECT SUPPORT COORDINATOR

## FOUNDATION BOARD MEMBERS

NED JANNOTTA, PRESIDENT

JESSE STOVER, VICE PRESIDENT

DAVID LANDES, TREASURER

LESLIE MATTSON, SECRETARY

HUGH O'HALLORAN

CLAY GEITTMANN

JENNIFER SPARKS

DON WATKINS

TOM CHAPMAN

HADLEY HAMMER

SARA ADAMSON

ROBERT KOPP

SCOTT GUENTHER, GTNP LIAISON

CODY LOCKHART, TCSAR ADVISOR LIAISON



FROM  
DECEMBER 1, 2020 – MAY 31, 2021  
TCSAR VOLUNTEERS SPENT  
**4,800 HOURS**  
ON SAR-RELATED ACTIVITIES  
**RESCUES = 1,812 HOURS**  
**TRAINING = 2,764 HOURS**  
**COMMUNITY EVENTS = 224 HOURS**



# TCSAR VOLUNTEER TEAM MEMBERS



KC BESS



TIM CIOCARLAN



RYAN COMBS



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



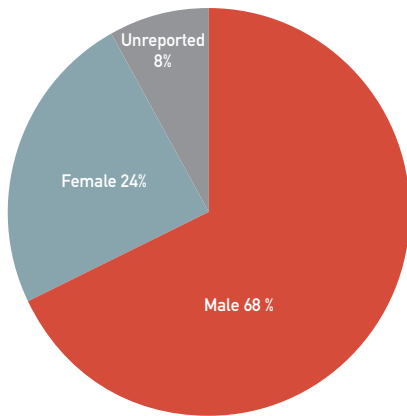
MIKE ESTES  
TCSO SAR COORDINATOR



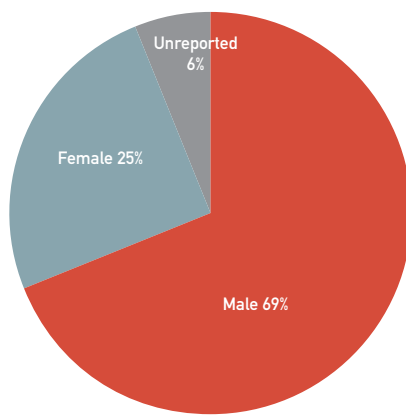
MATT CARR  
TCSO SHERIFF

# INCIDENTS BY GENDER

WINTER 2020/21

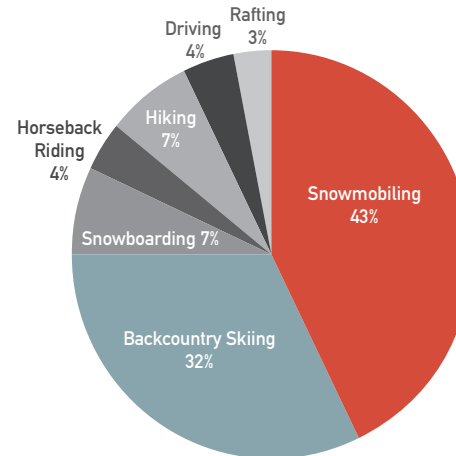


WINTER 10-YEAR AVERAGE

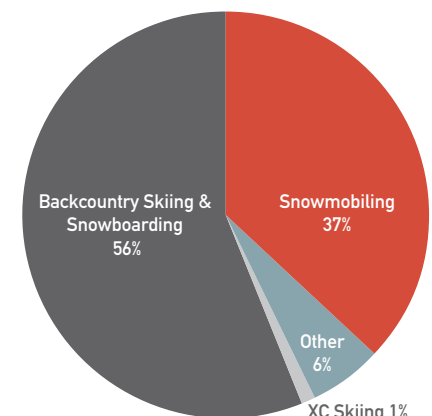


# INCIDENTS BY ACTIVITY

WINTER 2020/21



WINTER 10-YEAR AVERAGE



## Winter 2020/2021 RESCUE REVIEW

**How Rescues Roll:** In Teton County, 911 calls or texts go directly to the Sheriff's Office Communications Center, which is staffed by at least two dispatchers. Alerts from the BackcountrySOS app, inReach, and SPOT devices also go to dispatch. If the emergency is in the backcountry, dispatch alerts the team's Board of Advisors (BOA) to determine the best course of action. Sometimes, the BOA (consisting of six TCSAR volunteers) is able to handle the call without paging the entire team. This is usually achieved by an advisor making contact with the reporting party (RP) to determine the nature or seriousness of the emergency. If the call requires a team response, the BOA pages the rest of the volunteers, who report to the TCSAR hangar to take on assigned roles.

The reason it's called a 'page' is because back in the day, team members had pagers to alert them to callouts. These days, volunteers just get a text or call on their cell phone, but the terminology has stuck.

### » DECEMBER

**RESCUE** Snowmobile Crash at Togwotee  
**DATE** 12/5/20  
**TIME** 12:57 p.m.  
**DURATION** 56 minutes  
**ATTENDEES** 13 team members  
**PERSON HOURS** 12.1

**WHAT HAPPENED?** A woman rode her snowmobile off a cliff on the CDC Trail near Togwotee and ended up with a broken arm. As TCSAR was gearing up for a response, the USFS Rangers from the Blackrock District handled the call.

**RESCUE** Missing Snowmobilers at Togwotee  
**DATE** 12/22/20  
**TIME** 2:18 p.m.  
**DURATION** 23 minutes  
**ATTENDEES** 9 team members  
**PERSON HOURS** 3.5  
**Board page only**

**WHAT HAPPENED?** The Board of Advisors were alerted by

emergency dispatch about a snowmobiler missing from their party. The group of six had set out on rental sleds from Togwotee Lodge, but only five returned. The Lodge soon informed TCSAR that all the group's members had been accounted for, and that they had gone out into the field to retrieve the missing snowmachine.

**RESCUE** False App Activation  
**DATE** 12/29/20  
**TIME** 1:37 p.m.  
**DURATION** 56 minutes  
**ATTENDEES** 11 team members  
**PERSON HOURS** 10.3  
**Board page only**

**WHAT HAPPENED?** The Board of Advisors received a page that a crash had occurred in the Togwotee area. The report came from an app that automatically senses crashes. After discussion, it was determined that the reliability of this type of app is questionable for backcountry use. As someone had not specifically called for help, the team should stand down. The BOA also called and texted the party's phone and eventually heard from them that it was a false activation.

**RESCUE** Injured Skier at Plummer Creek  
**DATE** 1/1/21  
**TIME** 1:41 p.m.  
**DURATION** 2 hours, 37 minutes  
**ATTENDEES** 24 team members  
**PERSON HOURS** 62.8

**WHAT HAPPENED?** The new year ushered in a burst of activity, with two callouts happening simultaneously. In this incident, a 19-year-old woman had injured her leg while skiing near the Plummer Yurt. Two TCSAR teams responded to the Moose Creek trailhead with snowmobiles and skis. The woman's immediate party began transporting her down the mountain before TCSAR took over and carried her the rest of the way via snowmobile.

**RESCUE** Injured Snowmobiler at Granite Creek  
**DATE** 1/1/21  
**TIME** 1:41 p.m.  
**DURATION** 2 hours, 49 minutes  
**ATTENDEES** 23 team members  
**PERSON HOURS** 64.8



**WHAT HAPPENED?** A 51-year-old male snowmobiler had driven off a steep embankment of the Granite Creek Road, causing his sled to land on top of him in a V-shaped gully. Sublette County EMS and bystanders extracted the patient from under the sled and provided initial assessment and treatment for hypothermia. He also had injuries to his face, arm and back. TCSAR responded with the helicopter and loaded the man into the ship for transport.

**RESCUE** False PLB Activation  
**DATE** 1/7/21  
**TIME** 1:33 p.m.

**DURATION** 3 hours, 34 minutes  
**ATTENDEES** 22 team members  
**PERSON HOURS** 78.5

**WHAT HAPPENED?** This incident illustrates the heavy resources that can be used during a false or accidental PLB (personal locator beacon) activation. On this call, the BOA received a page regarding a snowmobiler in need of help near Togwotee. Emergency dispatch reported that the snowbiler's wife had received an emergency text via an electronic app connected to her husband's PLB. The message stated: "We need help from SAR call SO battery low." Because the request was specifically for SAR's help and because the text appeared to be typed in (i.e. not a pre-set text message), TCSAR initiated a field response with two snowmobile teams. A helicopter team was also sent to the GPS coordinates of the PLB activation, while other team members tried calling party members as well as the PLB customer service for more assistance. Customer service informed TCSAR that the device was only for one-way communication and therefore could not receive messages. They also reported that the device was moving.

The helicopter flew to the coordinates but did not see anyone in need of help. The snowmobile teams and a sheriff's deputy made their way to the trailhead. Shortly later, the snowmobilers met up with the SAR members and the deputy, revealing that the emergency had been an accidental activation. After 3 hours and 34 minutes involving 22 team members, the team stood down.

**RESCUE** Short-haul in JHMR Backcountry  
**DATE** 1/9/21  
**TIME** 1:42 p.m.  
**DURATION** 1 hour, 52 minutes  
**ATTENDEES** 19 team members  
**PERSON HOURS** 35.5



**WHAT HAPPENED?** A woman injured her knee while skiing in

the Pinedale area south of the Jackson Hole Mountain Resort boundary. As ski patrol responded, they requested helicopter assistance due to the distance to the accident site. TCSAR initiated a helicopter short-haul response, packaged the patient, and flew her to the LZ in Teton Village.

**RESCUE** Short-haul near Powder Reserve  
**DATE** 1/15/21  
**TIME** 2:41 p.m.  
**DURATION** 2 hours, 49 minutes  
**ATTENDEES** 26 team members  
**PERSON HOURS** 73.2



**WHAT HAPPENED?** A woman skiing south of Teton Pass injured her knee and was unable to walk or ski out. Due to the steep terrain and difficulty of helping evacuate the patient over snow, TCSAR responded with a helicopter short-haul team. A backup team was also dispatched on skis with a toboggan. One team member was already skiing in the area, and another two were stationed at the top of the pass doing public outreach about backcountry safety. After rigging the ship for short-haul, team members packaged the patient and short-hauled her to safety.

**RESCUE** Overdue Snowmobilers  
**DATE** 1/23/21  
**TIME** 5:15 p.m.  
**DURATION** 6 minutes  
**ATTENDEES** 5 team members  
**PERSON HOURS** 0.5  
 Board page only

**WHAT HAPPENED?** A rental shop employee at Togwotee Lodge called TCSAR to say that a party of snowmobilers was overdue. As the BOA discussed the situation, the party showed up.

**Thank You:** We are grateful for the many partnerships that help our team to be successful in the field: Teton County Sheriff's Office and Dispatch, GTNP Jenny Lake Climbing Rangers, USFS Blackrock Ranger District, JHMR Ski Patrol, Grand Targhee Ski Patrol, Snow King Mountain, Wyoming Department of Transportation, Bridger-Teton Avalanche Center, and Togwotee Mountain Lodge.



**RESCUE** Snowmobile Injury at Togwotee  
**DATE** 1/25/21  
**TIME** 11:12 a.m.  
**DURATION** 4 hours, 45 minutes  
**ATTENDEES** 20 team members  
**PERSON HOURS** 95



**WHAT HAPPENED?** A woman crashed on her snowmobile up near Togwotee, sustaining multiple serious injuries. Guides from Togwotee Mountain Lodge were first on scene, with TCSAR mobilizing ground and air teams. After assessing and packaging the patient, the helicopter lifted the woman to further medical treatment.

**RESCUE** Stuck Snowmobilers at Togwotee  
**DATE** 1/26/21  
**TIME** 2:23 p.m.  
**DURATION** 2 hours, 19 minutes  
**ATTENDEES** 8 team members  
**PERSON HOURS** 18.5  
 Board page only

**WHAT HAPPENED?** TCSAR received a call from dispatch reporting

that it had received a PLB activation from a snowmobiler on Togwotee. The team was eventually able to contact the reporting party, a man and woman who had a stuck snowmobile but no injuries. TCSAR was able to talk the two riders into sledding out tandem on one machine.

**RESCUE** Missing Snowmobilers on Grouse Mountain  
**DATE** 1/26/21  
**TIME** 6:35 p.m.  
**DURATION** 49 minutes  
**ATTENDEES** 7 team members  
**PERSON HOURS** 5.7  
 Board page only

**WHAT HAPPENED?** Togwotee Mountain Lodge called TCSAR to report a missing party of 10 snowmobilers plus a guide. With no contact since 5 p.m., the lodge sent two guides equipped with sat phones to search for the party. At about 7:30 p.m., the party was found.

**RESCUE** Injured Skier in the Claw  
**DATE** 1/27/21  
**TIME** 9:21 a.m.  
**DURATION** 1 hour, 54 minutes



**ATTENDEES** 28 team members  
**PERSON HOURS** 53.2

**WHAT HAPPENED?** A skier on the south side of Teton Pass sustained a suspected shoulder injury after falling 100-200 feet down the Claw. With inclement weather closing in, TCSAR dispatched teams on skis, snowmobiles and the helicopter. The patient was successfully short-hauled via helicopter to further medical treatment. Meanwhile, another call came in about a serious snowmobile accident at Togwotee.

**RESCUE** Snowmobile Crash on Togwotee  
**DATE** 1/27/21  
**TIME** 11:34 a.m.  
**DURATION** 5 hours, 33 minutes  
**ATTENDEES** 26 attendees  
**PERSON HOURS** 144.3



**WHAT HAPPENED?** Emergency dispatch paged TCSAR about a man who'd become pinned beneath his snowmobile on Togwotee. With CPR in progress, TCSAR responded with a helicopter and ground teams, and put in a call for Air Idaho medevac. The teams converged on the patient to treat and assess his condition. Unfortunately, the man did not survive.

## » COOKE CITY CALL-OUT

*Incident shown in photograph on cover.*

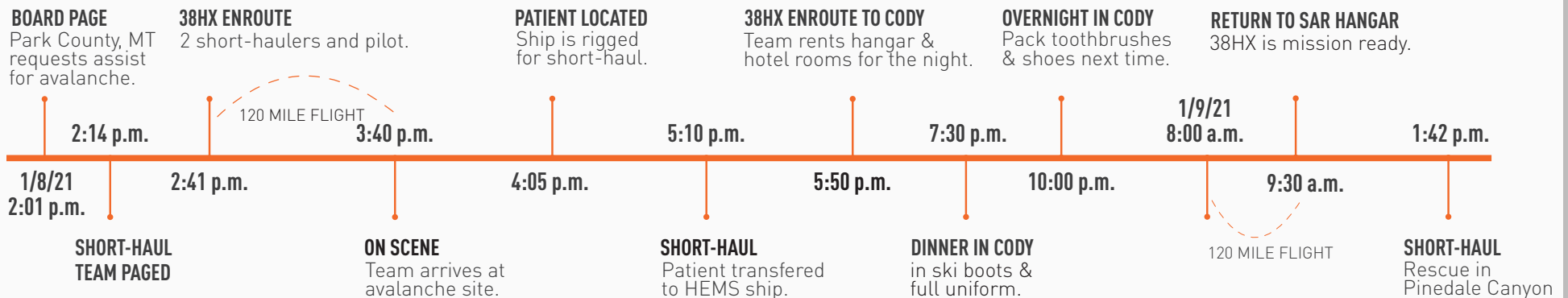
**RESCUE** Short-haul in Cooke City, MT  
**DATE** 1/8/21  
**TIME** 2:01 p.m.  
**DURATION** 19 hours, 59 minutes  
**ATTENDEES** 13 team members  
**PERSON HOURS** 259.8



**WHAT HAPPENED?** A guided party of six skiers was ascending Mount Republic, aka The Fin, just outside of Cooke City. According to the Gallatin National Forest Avalanche Center, the group had dug a snowpit on the way up and decided to continue. About 100 feet from that pit, the group triggered a large avalanche, which caught and carried three of them. One had broken ribs, another had trouble breathing, and a third had lost consciousness. With weather in Montana preventing local use of a helicopter, Park County, Mont., called TCSAR. After discussing the options, the BOA decided it was a viable mission. The pilot grabbed two short-haulers (normally, the

team would have three, but they wanted to keep weight down for the long flight) and flew directly from the Jackson hangar to Cooke City, a distance of about 120 miles. Once on scene, the team located the patient and successfully short-hauled him to further medical treatment in Cooke City.

The TCSAR team then flew to Cody for the night before returning to Jackson in the morning. The ship was back in action just a few hours later, when the team was alerted to an injured skier in Pinedale Canyon just south of Jackson Hole Mountain Resort. That skier was also short-hauled to safety.







Teton National Park, were caught in an avalanche. The report came in as four partial burials, with one person suffering a broken leg. Partnering with Jenny Lake Rangers, TCSAR flew to the scene, assessed and packaged the patient, then short-hauled him to the LZ in Teton Village.

## » FEBRUARY

**RESCUE** Injured Skier inbound at JHMR  
**DATE** 2/1/21  
**TIME** 4:04 p.m.  
**DURATION** 7 minutes  
**ATTENDEES** 8 team members  
**PERSON HOURS** 0.9  
 Board page only

**WHAT HAPPENED?** TCSAR was notified of a skier with an injured hamstring at Jackson Hole Mountain Resort. As the incident was inbound, ski patrol handled the call.

**RESCUE** Avalanche at Grand Targhee  
**DATE** 2/14/21  
**TIME** 12:37 p.m.  
**DURATION** 1 hour, 14 minutes  
**ATTENDEES** 5 team members  
**PERSON HOURS** 6.2  
 Board page only

**WHAT HAPPENED?** A skier reported seeing an avalanche about a quarter mile north of the top of the Blackfoot chairlift at Grand Targhee. Ski patrol responded and contacted TCSAR for possible assistance. It was determined that the slide was natural and that no one was caught. The team stood down.

**RESCUE** Missing Person at JHMR, OP1  
**DATE** 2/14/21  
**TIME** 2:33 p.m.  
**DURATION** 0 minutes  
**ATTENDEES** 5 team members  
**PERSON HOURS** 0  
 Board page only

**WHAT HAPPENED?** Jackson Hole Ski Patrol requested TCSAR assistance in the search for a missing snowboarder, possibly with an unmanned aerial vehicle. A conference call was held with ski patrol, TCSAR, and Grand Teton National Park. With incoming darkness and inclement weather, it was decided that

no aerial resources would be needed, and that the search would start at daybreak.

**RESCUE** Missing Person at JHMR, OP2  
**DATE** 2/15/21  
**TIME** 6:30 a.m.  
**DURATION** 6 hours, 30 minutes  
**ATTENDEES** 3 team members  
**PERSON HOURS** 19.5

**WHAT HAPPENED?** Unified command met early to continue the search for the missing snowboarder. Heavy snowfall prevented the use of a helicopter. With dog teams on backup, ski patrol began searching on skis and found the person deceased inbound below a rock in a treewell.

**RESCUE** Stuck Snowmobilers at Jack Pine Creek  
**DATE** 2/15/21  
**TIME** 6:18 p.m.  
**DURATION** 9 hours, 1 minute  
**ATTENDEES** 15 team members  
**PERSON HOURS** 135.3

**WHAT HAPPENED?** TCSAR was alerted to an inReach activation from two snowmobilers who were stuck in the Jack Pine Creek area on the west side of the Tetons. The first team set out into the snowy night using snowmobiles from the Alta cache, while another team departed from the hangar. Team members were on scene with the exhausted snowmobilers at roughly 10:30 p.m. They helped the two men get their snowmobiles out of a creek and all made it back to the trailhead by 1 a.m., with TCSAR team members returning to the hangar at 3:19 a.m.

**RESCUE** Overdue Skier on Teton Pass  
**DATE** 2/16/21  
**TIME** 12:26 p.m.  
**DURATION** 2 hours, 35 minutes  
**ATTENDEES** 7 team members  
**PERSON HOURS** 18.1

**WHAT HAPPENED?** A woman reported her husband overdue from skiing on Teton Pass on a day when the avalanche danger was rated "considerable." The man's vehicle was parked at the Stagecoach, but attempts to reach his cell phone were unsuccessful and it was unknown if he was skiing alone or with a partner. As the team mobilized, the man was found skiing at Grand Targhee, and the team stood down.

**RESCUE** Missing Skiers in Game Creek  
**DATE** 1/30/21  
**TIME** 5:48 p.m.  
**DURATION** 18 minutes  
**ATTENDEES** 9 team members  
**PERSON HOURS** 2.7  
 Board page only

**WHAT HAPPENED?** A group of people skiing from Snow King to Game Creek were reported overdue and missing. They were shortly found and TCSAR stood down.

**RESCUE** Short-haul on Olive Oil  
**DATE** 1/31/21  
**TIME** 2:26 p.m.  
**DURATION** 2 hours, 34 minutes  
**ATTENDEES** 12 team members  
**PERSON HOURS** 30.8



**WHAT HAPPENED?** A group of skiers on Olive Oil, a peak in Grand



# SEARCH AND RESCUE LOCATIONS – DECEMBER 1, 2020 – MAY 31, 2021



\*Active Team Calls  
Map Courtesy of Skinny Skis



**RESCUE** Skier with Chest Injury in Rock Springs  
**DATE** 2/17/21  
**TIME** 1:08 p.m.  
**DURATION** 45 minutes  
**ATTENDEES** 9 team members  
**PERSON HOURS** 6.5  
Board page only

**WHAT HAPPENED?** JHMR ski patrol notified TCSAR that they were assisting an injured skier out of bounds in Rock Springs. No further resources from the team were necessary.

**RESCUE** Short-haul Assist in Lincoln County  
**DATE** 2/17/21  
**TIME** 4:48 p.m.  
**DURATION** 2 hours, 12 minutes  
**ATTENDEES** 12 team members  
**PERSON HOURS** 26.4



**WHAT HAPPENED?** Lincoln County SAR requested short-haul helicopter assistance to air evac a snowmobiler who'd been caught in an avalanche in the Squaw Creek area up the Grey's River Road. Given that it was late afternoon, the team would have only one hour to complete the mission, as the helicopter does not fly after dark. The efficient rigging of the helicopter allowed the team to complete the mission in the limited time. Had that not been possible or had something hampered operations, the helicopter and team on board would have had to suspend the mission for the night. Unfortunately, the snowmobiler did not survive the incident.

**RESCUE** Snowboarder Buried by Avalanche on Togwotee  
**DATE** 2/18/21  
**TIME** 12:04 p.m.  
**DURATION** 3 hours, 56 minutes  
**ATTENDEES** 27 team members  
**PERSON HOURS** 106.2



**WHAT HAPPENED?** Four TCSAR volunteers were doing snowmobile training on Togwotee Pass when they were alerted to an avalanche burial nearby. A snowboarder had hit a jump above a slope and triggered the slide when he landed, which buried him about 10 feet deep. The team members were on scene within minutes, and helped dig the person out and begin CPR. Meanwhile, a short-haul team, including a GTNP ranger, approached in the helicopter, carrying an AED, as another

snowmobile team departed the hangar. Once the short-haul team was on scene, they continued rescue breathing while the patient was flown to an ambulance. Unfortunately, the patient did not survive.

**RESCUE** Helicopter Assist in Park County  
**DATE** 2/19/21  
**TIME** 10:36 p.m.  
**DURATION** 12 hours, 42 minutes  
**ATTENDEES** 11 team members  
**PERSON HOURS** 139.7



**WHAT HAPPENED?** TCSAR was requested by Park County, Wyo., to send a short-haul helicopter team to help search for two lost snowmobilers. The team committed to the mission, but inclement weather prevented the ship from departing the hangar. Meanwhile, the two snowmobilers were found and the team stood down.

**RESCUE** Injured Snowmobiler at Brooks Lake  
**DATE** 2/21/21  
**TIME** 1:15 p.m.  
**DURATION** 4 hours, 15 minutes  
**ATTENDEES** 17 team members  
**PERSON HOURS** 72.3



**WHAT HAPPENED?** A snowmobiler reportedly hit a tree in the Brooks Lake area and suffered severe injuries to his head. Given the serious nature of the incident, a short-haul team flew directly to the scene. A snowmobile team was also dispatched as backup. Once on scene, a short-hauler assessed and packaged the patient, then airlifted him to further medical treatment.

**RESCUE** Avalanche in Broken Thumb, GTNP  
**DATE** 2/22/21  
**TIME** 12:07 p.m.  
**DURATION** 33 minutes  
**ATTENDEES** 10 team members  
**PERSON HOURS** 5.5



**WHAT HAPPENED?** A snowboarder was caught by an avalanche while descending Broken Thumb, a steep couloir on the north side of 25 Short in Grand Teton National Park. Park officials requested TCSAR helicopter assistance, but weather prevented

a short-haul operation. Instead, the helicopter dropped off two Jenny Lake rangers onto the scene, with TCSAR volunteers standing as backup. Unfortunately, the man did not survive.

**RESCUE** Overdue Snowmobilers at Brush Creek  
**DATE** 2/22/21  
**TIME** 6:10 p.m.  
**DURATION** 10 minutes  
**ATTENDEES** 9 team members  
**PERSON HOURS** 1.5  
Board page only

**WHAT HAPPENED?** A group of snowmobilers was reported late. A TCSAR team member was able to text the group, however, and everything was OK.

**RESCUE** Avalanche on Mount Leidy  
**DATE** 2/23/21  
**TIME** 3:49 p.m.  
**DURATION** 3 hours, 11 minutes  
**ATTENDEES** 27 team members  
**PERSON HOURS** 86



**WHAT HAPPENED?** A snowmobiler was caught in an avalanche south of Mount Leidy. TCSAR responded with teams in the helicopter and on snowmobiles. Due to the steep terrain, the team decided that short-haul was the best option. After packaging the patient, the team short-hauled him to a waiting ambulance.

**RESCUE** Missing Snowmobilers in Park County  
**DATE** 2/25/21  
**TIME** 10:06 a.m.  
**DURATION** 7 hours, 1 minute  
**ATTENDEES** 8 team members  
**PERSON HOURS** 56.1



**WHAT HAPPENED?** Park County called TCSAR to help with an aerial search for eight snowmobilers who had not been seen or heard of since the day before, and had spent the night out in the elements. TCSAR loaded the ship with two TCSAR volunteers and a GTNP ranger and flew to Cody to refuel. The team then responded to the site and determined that there were no medical issues or life-threatening injuries. The patients were given helicopter safety briefings, loaded into



the back of the ship, and flown to safety. The team then flew to Cody to refuel, and then back to Jackson.

**RESCUE** Short-haul Request at Grand Targhee  
**DATE** 2/25/21  
**TIME** 3:51 p.m.  
**DURATION** 1 hour, 19 minutes  
**ATTENDEES** 9 team members  
**PERSON HOURS** 11.9  
 Board page only



**WHAT HAPPENED?** Grand Targhee Ski Patrol requested short-haul assistance for a skier who'd fallen off a cliff in the adjacent backcountry. Before the team could assemble, ski patrol was able to get the patient to hike out on her own, and no further assistance was required.

**RESCUE** Avalanche on Teton Pass  
**DATE** 2/27/21  
**TIME** 10:58 a.m.  
**DURATION** 32 minutes  
**ATTENDEES** 16 team members  
**PERSON HOURS** 8.5 hours



**WHAT HAPPENED?** An avalanche buried one person in the area known as Devil's Slide on the south side of Teton Pass. As TCSAR prepared a response, the patient was able to self-rescue and declined assistance.

## » MARCH

**RESCUE** Short-haul Request from Fremont County  
**DATE** 3/1/21  
**TIME** 5:20 p.m.  
**DURATION** 26 minutes  
**ATTENDEES** 7 team members  
**PERSON HOURS** 3



**WHAT HAPPENED?** Fremont County called to request short-haul assistance for a snowmobiler who was stuck, in good health, but unprepared to spend the night outdoors. Given the late hour, the team decided that it could not take on the mission.

**RESCUE** Backcountry Alerts from JHMR  
**DATE** 3/2/21, 3/3/21, 3/12/21  
 Board pages only

**WHAT HAPPENED?** On three occasions in March, Jackson Hole Ski Patrol notified TCSAR that they were helping skiers in the adjacent backcountry, as part of the current memorandum of understanding between the county and ski area. No TCSAR assistance was required for these three events.

**RESCUE** InReach Activation at Granite Creek  
**DATE** 3/6/21  
**TIME** 5:19 p.m.  
**DURATION** 1 hour, 41 minutes  
**ATTENDEES** 17 team members  
**PERSON HOURS** 28.6

**WHAT HAPPENED?** TCSAR was notified of an SOS alert from an InReach emergency beacon at Granite Hot Springs. The team assembled two snowmobile teams at the hangar, while a Forest Service ranger who was in the area went to check in on the reporting party. The snowmobile teams headed into the field, and were notified by the ranger that the alert had been accidental. The team stood down and returned to the hangar.

**RESCUE** Short-haul in Cody Bowl  
**DATE** 3/11/21  
**TIME** 11:19 a.m.  
**DURATION** 2 hours, 41 minutes  
**ATTENDEES** 8 team members  
**PERSON HOURS** 21.5



**WHAT HAPPENED?** A skier broke his leg after jumping off the exit cliff at the bottom of Central Couloir on Cody Peak. The incident was witnessed by ski patrol, who asked TCSAR for helicopter assistance. The team arrived on scene and short-hauled the patient to the LZ in Teton Village.

**RESCUE** Car Over Edge on Teton Pass  
**DATE** 3/19/21  
**TIME** 10:21 p.m.  
**DURATION** 26 minutes  
**ATTENDEES** 13 team members  
**PERSON HOURS** 5.6

**WHAT HAPPENED?** TCSAR was alerted about a car that had possibly gone over the edge on Teton Pass, and the team's services may be required. When JH Fire/EMS arrived on scene, they notified the team that the car was stuck on the guardrail and that SAR resources were not needed.

**RESCUE** Short-haul on Edelweiss  
**DATE** 3/28/21  
**TIME** 1:40 p.m.  
**DURATION** 2 hours, 31 minutes  
**ATTENDEES** 13 team members  
**PERSON HOURS** 32.7



**WHAT HAPPENED?** TCSAR received an alert about an injured skier at the bottom of Edelweiss on Teton Pass. The team determined that short-haul would be the quickest and safest operation. A secondary team was assembled as backup. After the short-haul



team packaged the patient, they flew the skier to a waiting ambulance near the top of the pass.

## » APRIL

**RESCUE** Hiker Stuck on Snow King  
**DATE** 4/18/2020  
**TIME** 12:50 p.m.  
**DURATION** 2 hours, 40 minutes  
**ATTENDEES** 14 team members  
**PERSON HOURS** 37.3



**WHAT HAPPENED?** A man hiking up Snow King became stuck a short distance from the summit. Afraid that he would fall, he alerted emergency services. A TCSAR team responded in the side-by-side UTV and drove up the muddy access road to reach the man. The volunteers were able to secure the man with a harness and rope and helped him climb the rest of the way up the mountain. Once at the summit, the team drove him back down to the base area.

## » MAY

**RESCUE** Horse Accident at Slate Creek  
**DATE** 5/1/21  
**TIME** 12:15 p.m.  
**DURATION** 3 hours  
**ATTENDEES** 14 team members  
**PERSON HOURS** 42



**WHAT HAPPENED?** TCSAR was alerted about a boy who'd been injured in a horse accident up the Gros Ventre Road. The reporting party was able to reach dispatch with an emergency locator device, which set the rescue in motion. TCSAR responded with ground and helicopter teams, with the ship reaching the patient first. The heli team assessed the boy's injuries and packaged him inside the helicopter for transport to further medical treatment.

**RESCUE** Heli Assist at Phelps Lake  
**DATE** 5/3/21  
**TIME** 1:28 p.m.  
**DURATION** 3 hours, 2 minutes



**ATTENDEES** 6 team members  
**PERSON HOURS** 18.2

**WHAT HAPPENED?** TCSAR assisted GTNP rangers after being notified that a woman had broken her leg at Phelps Lake. After reaching the patient, park rangers short-hauled her to further medical treatment.

**RESCUE** Lost Hiker in Darby Canyon  
**DATE** 5/6/21  
**TIME** 2:25 p.m.  
**DURATION** 1 hour, 21 minutes  
**ATTENDEES** 8 team members  
**PERSON HOURS** 10.8  
**Board page only**

**WHAT HAPPENED?** After two brothers had gone hiking up Darby Canyon, they got separated and only one of them made it back to their car. The missing brother made a text to say he was heading back to the trailhead, but after 1.5 hours he had not yet arrived. After checking with the RP and getting no luck on phone ping locations with dispatch, the advisors asked a deputy to respond to the trailhead. Three hours after the brother had made the initial call for assistance, the missing brother arrived on his own.

**RESCUE** Stranded Snowmobilers at Togwotee  
**DATE** 5/6/21  
**TIME** 6:51 p.m.  
**DURATION** 2 hours, 33 minutes  
**ATTENDEES** 5 team members  
**PERSON HOURS** 12.8  
**Board page only**

**WHAT HAPPENED?** Two male snowmobilers in their early 20s called for help because they couldn't get their sleds to start on top of a peak near Togwotee Pass. With the helicopter engaged in a separate operation, and because they could see the highway from their location, the men were advised to walk out on their own.

**RESCUE** Overdue Cavers  
**DATE** 5/15/21  
**TIME** 11:28 p.m.  
**DURATION** 33 minutes

**ATTENDEES** 4 team members  
**PERSON HOURS** 2.2  
**Board page only**

**WHAT HAPPENED?** The Board of Advisors received a call about three men in their 20s who'd missed their predetermined call-back time. It was soon determined they were safe, and the mission stood down.

**RESCUE** Overturned Raft at Wilson Bridge  
**DATE** 5/19/21  
**TIME** 12:21 p.m.  
**DURATION** 12 minutes  
**ATTENDEES** 36 team members  
**PERSON HOURS** 7.2

**WHAT HAPPENED?** The Board of Advisors received a call about an overturned raft at the Wilson Bridge. There had been nine people on board, including a toddler and pregnant female. The SAR team was paged to respond to the hangar for swiftwater rescue. All nine were out of water within eight minutes, and TCSAR team stood down. Two people were transported to the hospital for further evaluation.

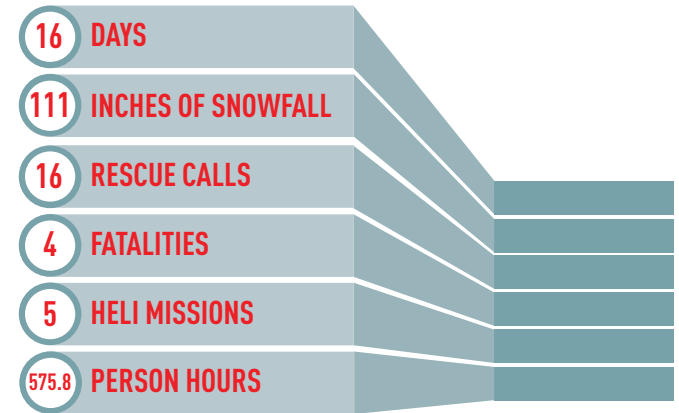


# » HOW BIG SNOWFALL CORRELATES WITH ACCIDENTS

For more than two weeks straight in February, TCSAR was getting calls nearly everyday from people who needed help in the backcountry. That 16-day stretch coincided during a very big storm cycle in northwest Wyoming, with the Tetons receiving more than nine feet of snowfall. The steady snow kept the avalanche hazard up to at least 'considerable' the entire time.

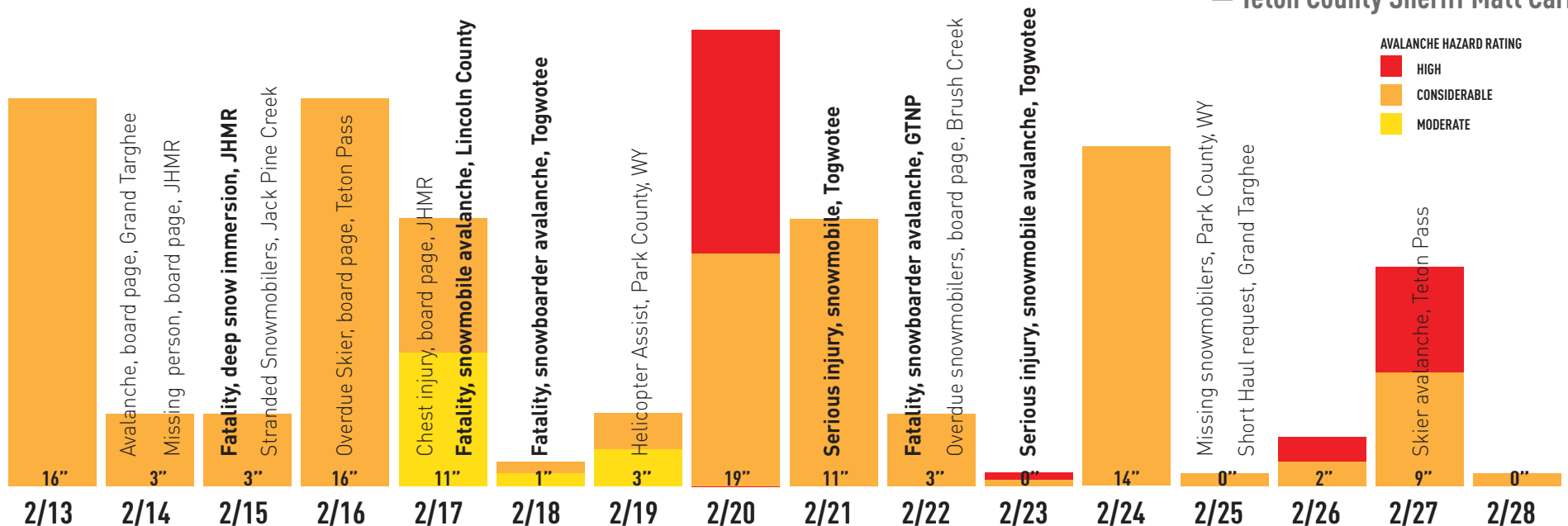
The calls to TCSAR included a nine-hour mission to rescue two stuck snowmobilers in the middle of the night; three avalanche deaths; one fatality from deep snow immersion at JHMR; two callouts to help snowmobilers with life-threatening injuries; and a helicopter assist in Park County, Wyo., to rescue eight stranded snowmobilers on Beartooth Pass. That was the second heli assist in the Beartooths this winter, with the helicopter also responding to incidents in neighboring Lincoln and Fremont counties.

This is what that historic period looked like for TCSAR volunteers and their partners. It's a sobering reminder that winter accidents in Jackson Hole most often occur during big storm cycles.



There was a lot of fatigue in February. But I recall a rescue at the end of month that was kind of routine and not too exciting. I remember walking upstairs at the hangar and finding 20-plus people there. It was the tail end of an incredible cycle, and people were pulling off amazing rescues, many of them technical. And still, here they were ready to go.

— Teton County Sheriff Matt Carr





# » HONORING 20 YEARS OF SERVICE WITH TCSAR

In 2001, TCSAR welcomed 10 new volunteers to the team. From that class, only two are still with the squad. This year, we congratulate Ted Kyle and Terri Romanowski for hitting the rare 20-year milestone. Join us as we extend our gratitude for their dedicated service.



**Terri Romanowski**  
SR# 25  
Dispatcher, Caretaker,  
Radio Coordinator

You might know Terri Romanowski as the dispatcher at Teton Village or as a tram operator for many seasons. It's a long way from where she grew up in a tough neighborhood in East Cleveland, Ohio. As a kindergartener, she attended many different schools and was part of the federally mandated busing program to help desegregate schools in the 1970s.

In high school she entered a vocational education program for auto mechanics and beauty school training. Being a female, she was denied acceptance into auto mechanics even though she'd already rebuilt a carburetor and installed a C4 transmission. As Terri was saving for college, working as a beautician, she went to a temp agency and got a job in a lab for preventative maintenance analyzing oil machinery for Standard Oil (now British Petroleum). The company kept her on and paid for her college at Cleveland State and Cuyahoga Community College, eventually promoting her to national inventory accountant. After eight years, her job was eliminated as part of corporate downsizing.

She then traveled the world, visiting 36 countries, and decided to follow a lifelong dream by moving to Wyoming. With an uncle in Rock Springs, she moved to Jackson in 1996 and got a job as a lift operator at the Jackson Hole Mountain Resort. Working as a tram op, she saw a need for more medical training and became a certified Red Cross instructor. A few years later, a tram mechanic named Steve "Chewy" Barker, a TCSAR member at the time, recommended that she apply for the team.

"He said, 'You're a good person, you can talk to people, you care about people, and you help people without being judgmental. You'd make a good rescuer,'" she recalls.

#### **ON A PIVOTAL MOMENT AT TCSAR AND BACKCOUNTRY RECREATION:**

In 2002, we had a mountain bike rescue on Teton Pass, where the patient said he had a shoulder injury on Black's. After a drawn-out search, he was found elsewhere. After that, the Forest Service talked about not having mountain biking up there because it wasn't organized and people were building illegal trails. This led, in part, to the formation of the Teton Freedom Riders, who came in and started building trails, which led to the network of trails on the pass.

#### **ON A MEMORABLE MISSION:**

We were helping the Park and FBI investigate the death of a man in the Arizona Creek area. We had the whole team out there and I was with Ray Shriver,

his dog and Glen Messersmith. When we got done, Ray said, "I didn't want to alarm you, but we were being followed by a grizzly bear. I said, 'Oh, my God, how did you know?'" This was a wake-up call for me. Ray always had a sixth sense.

#### **HOW DO YOU DECOMPRESS AFTER AN INTENSE RESCUE?**

I had a lot of tragedy in my life growing up, and I've learned to deal with many different situations. I'll visit nature, go on a hike, bike, ride horses or my dirt bike, as well talk to my brother. Animals also help me; they are my saviors. I currently have several animals I care for. My favorite is Bob Marley the horse, he always cheers me up.

#### **HAS BEING A SAR VOLUNTEER CHANGED THE WAY YOU OPERATE IN THE BACKCOUNTRY?**

My friend says I pack too much. He'll lift my backpack before we do something and give me that look. I always carry a first aid kit and make sure I'm prepared.

#### **WHAT'S THE HARDEST PART ABOUT BEING A VOLUNTEER WITH TCSAR?**

The hardest part is trying to juggle all of it. I want to do more for SAR but working three jobs just to make ends meet doesn't give you enough time. You have to be creative to make it work.

#### **WHAT MOTIVATES YOU TO HELP OUT AT SO MANY FOUNDATION EDUCATION WORKSHOPS?**

Education is an important piece and the TCSAR Foundation, along with my fellow teammates that instruct, are doing a wonderful job with that. I feel

like people are going out better prepared than they were before attending the programs, or at least we have them thinking before heading out.

#### **WHAT DO MANY PEOPLE NOT KNOW ABOUT TCSAR?**

With more digital devices out there, people think they can take their cell phones and just call for a helicopter. And, you know, it's not always that easy. For one thing, the helicopter is not always going to be available because of weather or you may not have cell reception. It may take hours for us to get to you.

#### **WHAT'S THE MOST VALUABLE LESSON YOU'VE LEARNED AT TCSAR?**

There are situations that will humble you. Know your limitations and honor them.

#### **WHAT MAKES A GOOD TCSAR VOLUNTEER?**

Someone who is patient, kind, understanding, willing to listen, to show up and be there, and be accepting of all types of people.

#### **WHO HAD THE BIGGEST INFLUENCE ON YOU?**

Ray Shriver. He had this glow about him on rescues. Kathryn Hess as well, God rest her soul. She was always such a huge inspiration for me.

#### **WHAT'S THE BEST THING TO HAPPEN TO JACKSON IN THE LAST 20 YEARS?**

More wildlife awareness on the roads, mountain bike trails, the Foundation and hangar, which facilitates all the needed gear so we can help the community. We used to work out of our cars, storage units, and Adams Canyon.

#### **WHAT ADVICE WOULD YOU GIVE TO SOMEONE WHO WANTS TO BE A TCSAR VOLUNTEER?**

Realize that it's a job you're not going to get paid for, and you may even spend money. But your pay is the reward of helping someone.

#### **WHAT KEEPS YOU COMING BACK?**

I love it. It's my heart and soul. I may not be the best rescuer, but I know that I've touched a lot of people's lives.



### **Ted Kyle**

**SR# 13**

**Ski Shop Manager**

During Ted Kyle's first winter in Jackson Hole, in 1992-93, the area didn't get a lot of snow. A lifelong skier who grew up in New Hampshire and served on the student ski patrol while attending Middlebury College, Vermont, he decided to spend at least another year in the valley. But the next winter, he blew out his knee. As the years went by, he kept making excuses about why he couldn't leave. "Probably in my fifth year, my mom asked, 'So do you just live in Jackson now?'" he said. "And I was like, 'Yeah, I think I live here. This is it.'"

Other than working at a ski shop for six months in Sydney, Australia, he's been in Jackson ever since. Compelled to give back to the community, he joined TCSAR in 2001. Though he worked as a realtor for 10 years, and as an appraiser for a few years after the 2008 recession, he has mostly worked at local ski shops. Since 2015 he has managed the shop at Snow King Mountain. His knowledge of gear helped him serve as Gear Advisor for TCSAR for four years. Today, he's married and has two kids, 11 and 15 years old. When he's not in the shop or hanging with his family, he can often be found ski touring in Grand Teton National Park, mountain biking or floating the Snake River.

#### **ON WHY HE JOINED TCSAR?**

It seemed like a good way to get back into helping people and being part of the community. And the guys that I knew who were on the team were always talking about what a great group it was.

#### **ON HOW THINGS HAVE CHANGED AT TCSAR?**

The advisors (team leaders) were really consistent

and essentially held their roles until they left town. Today, leadership rotates more often, which I think gets more people involved. And definitely the gear and everything we have now is amazing compared to what we had back then. We had a uniform jacket, but you pretty much had to supply all your own stuff.

#### **WHAT'S THE HARDEST PART OF BEING ON TCSAR?**

Leaving my family or work to go on a rescue, and my attendance certainly shows that. One of the questions we used to get asked is: If you're at a birthday party and a call comes in, what do you do? The answer was supposed to be: You drop everything and go. But in the years since, I've realized that, no, that's not the right answer. Your family has to come first. And your job probably has to come first, depending on what you do. The

*“We do have a lot of absolute rockstar people, but it's the way that we work together that gets stuff done. There aren't many rescues where it comes down to just one person.”*

volunteer activity is super important, but if you skip out on all your wife's birthdays, you're going to be in big trouble. And if you're not at your kid's soccer games, you're gonna be in trouble. The rest of your life is gonna falter if you don't prioritize, right? Which unfortunately means I miss a lot more stuff. So I think the hardest part right now is the stress of wanting to be in two places at once. Not wanting to miss out on the kids growing up and doing things, but also feeling bad about not being on as many rescue calls.

#### **WHAT DO MOST PEOPLE NOT KNOW ABOUT TCSAR?**

That it's free. Even after 20 years on the team, we still run into people all the time who say they didn't call because they were afraid of the expense.



### WHAT IS THE MOST VALUABLE LESSON YOU'VE LEARNED AT TCSAR?

The value of teamwork. We do have a lot of absolute rockstar people, but it's the way that we work together that gets stuff done. There aren't many rescues where it comes down to just one person.

### WHO HAS HAD THE BIGGEST IMPRESSION ON YOU?

I go back to founding member Doug Meyer. As a new member, I felt like he knew everything. Part of his personality was 'my way or the highway.' But if it was his way, you knew it was always gonna be the right way. Jake Urban also. Jake was always looking for the cutting edge of the latest techniques. I think he helped open the team's eyes that we're not just Teton County Search & Rescue but part of this whole Search & Rescue world and that we need to be on the front edge of it. And I think we are now.

### WHAT WAS IT LIKE TO BE A TCSAR MEMBER DURING COVID?

I was on the call for the avalanche victim up at Togwotee (February 18, 2021) when we were up there randomly training on snowmobiles. We were doing CPR and it was after we'd been vaccinated. There was this unspoken, 'We're just doing this and we're not dealing with masks, and we're not telling these young kids whose friend is dying in front of them that they've got to put on masks.' It was like, 'Alright, this is up to the vaccine.'

### WHAT ADVICE DO YOU HAVE FOR SOMEONE WHO WANTS TO BE A VOLUNTEER?

Go for it. It's an amazing experience. As a new team member, you might be asked to go buy pizza. You might be a paramedic but you might not get sent to the patient right away, and instead get sent for pizza. And as a new team member, you have to accept that that's the way it is.

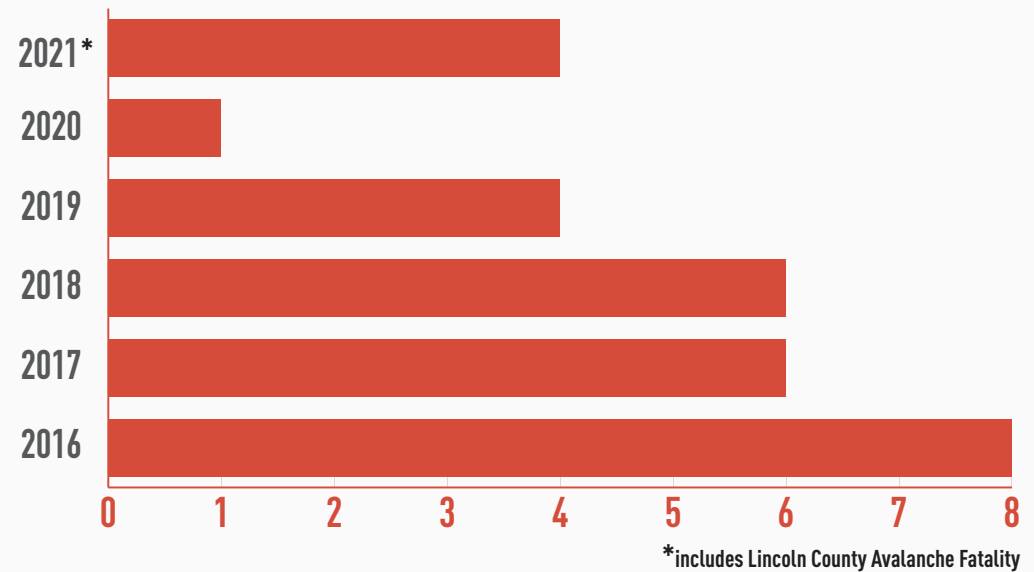
### WHAT SHOULD PEOPLE BE THINKING ABOUT WHEN THEY'RE GOING INTO THE JACKSON HOLE BACKCOUNTRY THIS SUMMER?

It's not SAR-related, but don't leave trash out there. And call us if you need us.

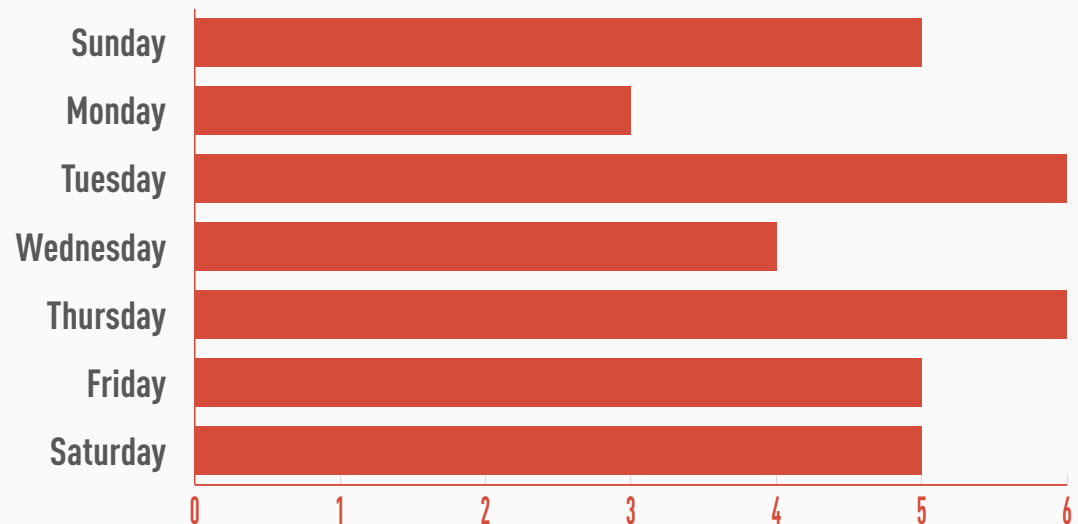
### WHY HAVE YOU STUCK WITH IT FOR 20 YEARS?

The team, absolutely. It's such a great group of people.

## BACKCOUNTRY FATALITIES BY YEAR



## INCIDENTS BY DAY OF WEEK WINTER 2020/2021



# » RESCUE HELICOPTER SERVICE SECURED FOR 2021



Each spring for the last five years, Teton County Search and Rescue Foundation has asked the community to help fund uninterrupted emergency helicopter service for Jackson Hole.

It has often come down to the wire as donations rolled in, but it always kept the heli flying during the increasingly busy offseasons.

This year, however, was different, as two donors stepped up to fully fund reliable heli rescue service through 2021. These extraordinary gifts meant the Foundation was able to hit pause on its annual Heli-Yes! campaign. Instead, the Foundation has been in the fortunate position of being able to focus on supporting the first new class of TCSAR

volunteers since 2015, and re-up team trainings that had been postponed or canceled this past year due to the pandemic.

“These donations benefit the entire community, as it allows TCSAR to ensure uninterrupted helicopter service for Teton County,” said TCSAR Foundation Executive Director Stephanie Thomas. “Heli-Yes! will continue again next year, but we are excited to be able to focus our efforts this year on supporting the new class and our wonderful volunteers.”

Part of the donations stem from the giving by Foster and Lynn Friess, who this year gave many of their friends the opportunity to select a favorite charity for their donation. Jerry Blann, former longtime president at JHMR, and his wife, Rebecca, designated their Friess gift for TCSAR’s heli program. The other heli gift came from an anonymous local donor. Combined, these gifts keep TCSAR’s heli flying at least through 2021. The Foundation could not be more grateful for

these donations, Thomas said, and reminded the community that without adequate heli funding, Teton County would not have a dedicated rescue ship during the spring and fall. Maintaining this life-saving service remains one of the top priorities for the Foundation.

*“These donations benefit the entire community, as it allows TCSAR to ensure uninterrupted helicopter service for Teton County, said TCSAR Foundation Executive Director Stephanie Thomas. Heli-Yes! will continue again next year, but we are excited to be able to focus our efforts this year on supporting the new class and our wonderful volunteers.”*





# » SIX YEARS IN THE MAKING: THE 2021 NEW CLASS



L-R: IAN JOHNSTON, ANDREW ARMINGTON, ASHLEY DIDION, TOBIN DENNIS, DAN ROGERS, LEXIE DRECHSEL, ANNA DISANTO, LAUREN FUNARO, BROOK YEOMANS, STEVE WURM.

With heli funding secured, the Foundation is helping the TCSAR team bring on a new class of volunteers for the first time in six years. It's an excellent time to invite fresh energy and ideas to the team while presenting some funding opportunities at the Foundation.

After starting from a pool of 150 candidates, the team narrowed the list down to these 10 qualified individuals: Andrew Armington, Tobin Dennis, Ashley Didion, Anna DiSanto, Lexie Drechsel, Lauren Funaro, Ian Johnston, Dan Rogers, Brook Yeomans, and Steve Wurm.

They come to us from different backgrounds

and extensive skillsets, and will no doubt make wonderful additions to TCSAR.

Bringing on a new class is a big investment, at approximately \$20,000 per person. This cost includes outfitting the volunteer with essential rescue gear and equipment, as well as paying for a rigorous schedule of trainings. New volunteers must attend all trainings and then gain certifications before achieving "operational" status. The whole process takes about a year.

The Foundation also looks forward to helping current volunteers maintain and renew advanced training, which were called off last year due to the

Covid-19 pandemic. Techniques such as technical rescue, swiftwater rescue, avalanche safety, wilderness medical training, among others, must be continued in order to empower the volunteers during complicated missions as well as keep themselves and patients safe.

To help support these efforts, the Foundation is calling on the community to pitch in. With the Jackson Hole backcountry continuing to see increased use, TCSAR volunteers remain an essential component to the health and safety of our community. To contribute, please visit us online at [TetonCountySAR.org/donate](https://TetonCountySAR.org/donate).





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# 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 died on February 15, 2012, in a helicopter crash while on a Search and Rescue mission. The Shriver Society was created in his honor. Your three-year gift augments training, equipment and other ancillary support, directly impacting our mission.

For more information please visit [TetonCountySAR.org/shriversociety](http://TetonCountySAR.org/shriversociety) or call us at (307) 413-0604.



## SHRIVER SOCIETY MEMBERS

SARA ADAMSON • JEFFREY & MADONNA AMES • JOSEPH ALBRIGHT & MARCIA KUNSTEL • PILAR BASS • ELIZABETH BECKER PARKER • JOE & GAINOR BENNETT • DENNIS & CAROL BERRYMAN • STEPHANIE BRENNAN • LINDA & TONY BROOKS • LYONS & ZOOEY BROWN • MARY KATE BUCKLEY • JOHN & ELAINE CARNEY • SANDY CHAPMAN • TOM & ANA CHAPMAN • TIM CIOCARLAN • JONAS & SHERYL CLEM • KAREN & JIM COLEMAN • RYAN & SUSAN COMBS • LOUISE DeLAND (IN MEMORY OF MICHAEL DeLAND) • KRISTINE & ART DENTON • KURT EGGERS • GREG EPSTEIN & MIRA LEE • JONATHAN & ANNIE FENN • GARY FINKEL • JIM FRANK & THE RAINTREE FOUNDATION • LEE & KATHY GARDNER • GWEN & MICHAEL GARMON • HADLEY HAMMER • HANSON CHARITABLE TRUST • HIRSCHFIELD FOUNDATION • BILL & LANNIE HOGLUND • BLAND & LIZA HOKE • EDDIE & MARNE HOLSTEIN • A.C. & PENNY HUBBARD • NED JANNOTTA & ERIKA PEARSALL • MORRIS & ANNE KINNE • ROBERT & DEBORAH KOPP • TED & GINA KYLE • DAVID LANDES • JACK & JANET LARIMER • MARTY & TOBY LEITH • REMY LEVY & CATHY KEHR • JOHN & PATRICIA LUMMIS • KATHY LYNCH • AMANDA & GEORGE MAHONEY • ANI MAITIN • ADRIENNE & JOHN MARS • LESLIE MATTSON & WILL RIGSBY • ANNA METEYER • SAM & LINDSEY McGEE & FREDERICK LANDSCAPING • BILL & TALLY MINGST • DINA MISHEV • MAC & HILLARY MUNRO • THE NEWTON FOUNDATION • RICHARD & PAM NINER • JULIE & HUGH O'HALLORAN • KEVIN & SHELLEY OLSON • ANDY & DANIELLE PARAZETTE AND PICA'S TAQUERIA • PAUL & SHIRLEY PIPER • AARON PRUZAN & TAMSEN KAYLOR • MERRILL & NANETTE RITTER • BIRDIE ROSSETTER • NEELA SEENANDEN & JASON HANOLD • PETER SELKOWITZ • DON & DRAGON SHERMAN • JACK & KATHERINE SHOOK • GARY & VERONICA SILBERBERG • JANICE & WILL SMITH • PATRICK SMITH & JC WHITFIELD • MARGOT SNOWDON & YVES DESGOUTTES • DAVID & PEGGY SOKOL FAMILY • BRANDON SPACKMAN • DAVID & SUSIE SPACKMAN • JENN SPARKS & ARI GOLDSTEIN • RICHARD SPENCER • ANTHONY & ERIKA STEVENS • JESSE STOVER & STINE RICHVOLDSEN • ALAN & FRANCES TESSLER • STEPHANIE THOMAS & CLAYTON PREHEIM • BARBARA & KENNETH THOMASMA • GEORGENE TOZZI • BARBARA & STANFORD TRACHTENBERG • COLLEEN & ETHAN VALENSTEIN • JILL VEBER • CHRISTY WALTON • DON & SHEA WATKINS • ROBERT WERNER, JACKSON TEMP SERVICES, INC • WHITELY & NICK WHEELER • JULIANN WHELAN • TOM WINDLE & PAT WEBER • KELVIN WU & ELLI BEMIS • BROOK AND JESSICA YEOMANS • SASHA & MIKE ZOLIK

# »» BACKCOUNTRY ZERO BRINGS HOME THE BEACON

BACKCOUNTRY SAFETY EDUCATION ADAPTS AND EVOLVES TO CONTINUE TO REACH USERS OF ALL AGES



The winter of 2020/21 changed the paradigm of Backcountry Zero programming as elevated Covid-19 risk levels pushed all education onto a virtual platform. As it turned out, the workshops continued to be effective with no diminished interest. These efforts reached 200 people through various educational offerings about backcountry safety and accident prevention.

### **What's In Your Pack**

Our most popular workshops, WIYP took place on Zoom with participants

tuning in for a series of interactive webinars. TCSAR Foundation hosted around 15 virtual events with participants watching from across the United States. Topics ranged from how to read the avalanche bulletin to in-depth analysis of risk management from a Naval Aviator.

### **A New Online Education Platform**

A new virtual learning tool was deployed on the Teachable platform. Check out [bczerolearning.teachable.com](https://bczerolearning.teachable.com) for excellent lessons on essential

summer and winter topics. This is an excellent resource to share with someone new to the area or interested in brushing up on their backcountry knowledge.

### **Teton Pass Outreach**

Due to restricted access at the TCSAR hangar, TCSAR volunteers and Foundation board members had an increased presence on Teton Pass for small group interactions in a breezy setting. At various times during the winter, they would team up to encourage backcountry users to practice with their avalanche transceivers on our Ortovox mobile beacon park. This convenient system allows someone to bury up to four beacon transmitters to test someone's search, probe and shovel skills—key skills in companion rescue. They also helped spread the word on BackcountrySOS, handing out goodies to those who participated. Look for such person-to-person outreach to continue into the future.

### **BC Gate Surveys**

Backcountry gate surveys continued for the sixth winter in a row at Jackson Hole Mountain Resort. We had five volunteers who posted up at the gates to gather data about backcountry use. Here are a few conclusion based on those findings:

- There were fewer overall surveys (150-200), suggesting fewer skiers and riders exiting the





# STAY INVOLVED!

VISIT [BACKCOUNTRYZERO.COM](https://backcountryzero.com)  
FOR MORE INFORMATION ON WORKSHOPS,  
COVID-19 PROTOCOLS, AND TO REGISTER.

WE LOOK FORWARD TO WORKING WITH OUR  
COMMUNITY AT THE TCSAR HANGAR THIS SUMMER!

JHMR gates. Not surprising given the reduced capacity at the resort last winter.

- Most people (more than 80 percent) continue to carry a beacon, shovel and probe.
- Jackson Hole Ski Patrol called TCSAR six times regarding resort-accessed backcountry incidents, with two resulting in full team responses. This is fewer than previous years, even the coronavirus-shortened 2019/20 ski season.

Ryan Millham, a senior at the Jackson Hole Community School, volunteered to take surveys on Teton Pass as part of a school project. Out of 200 responses, he found that non-residents and people under the age of 30 were least likely to be carrying avalanche gear. Users over 50 were the next group most likely to not be fully equipped for avalanche terrain.

Thanks to all of our community volunteers who help TCSAR Foundation more effectively target different user groups to help them prepare for a safe day in the mountains.

## What About This Summer?

Moving into summer, Backcountry Zero will return to in-person programming. Phew! What's in Your Pack workshops will be offered for youth, families and adults. A partnership with Mountain Bike the Tetons will offer specific skills for backcountry cyclists. Check out all of the Foundation's programming at [BackcountryZero.com/events](https://BackcountryZero.com/events).



# »» WISH LIST 2021

TCSAR Foundation raises money to support SAR volunteers with equipment, personal wellness and advanced training. Our wish list highlights some of our bigger needs for 2021 and we are grateful for full or partial funding for any of these items. For a detailed list of these items, visit [www.TetonCountySAR.org/wishlist](http://www.TetonCountySAR.org/wishlist).

## SUPPORT A NEW TEAM MEMBER

### ☐ ☐ Sponsor a New Volunteer

This spring, TCSAR brought on 10 new volunteers, at a cost of approximately \$20,000 per person. This investment includes outfitting the volunteer with essential rescue gear and equipment, wellness and meals, as well as paying for a rigorous schedule of trainings. New volunteers must attend all trainings and then gain certifications before achieving “operational” status. The whole process takes about a year.

**\$20,000**  
per volunteer

## HELICOPTER SUPPORT

Our heli program continues to grow every year, saving more lives and delivering more people to definitive care as quickly as possible. Funding this service is essential to our team. With a fully outfitted short-haul team, capabilities with technology such as LifeSeeker and RECCO, and working in close partnership with Grand Teton National Park’s Jenny Lake Rangers, our capabilities are better than ever before.

### ☐ ☐ Helicopter Ground Training and Flight School for Volunteers

**\$7,500**

### ☐ ☐ Partnership Training

In concert with GTNP Jenny Lake Climbing Rangers, Jackson Hole Mountain Resort, Togwotee Mountain Lodge and Grand Targhee Ski and Summer Resort.

**\$17,000**

### ☐ ☐ Heli-Yes Campaign Match

Each spring we run a campaign with our grassroots supporters to help fund the TCSAR helicopter program. A matching gift helps inspire this community to come together to meet the larger goal of maintaining uninterrupted emergency helicopter service throughout the year.

**\$35,000**

## ADVANCED TRAINING

After a year of canceled conferences, small team trainings and limited in-person opportunities, the team is looking forward to renewing their skills in many aspects. This essential element is key to SAR volunteers’ success.

### ☐ ☐ Individual Advanced Training

**\$10,000**

### ☐ ☐ Swiftwater Rescue Recertification

**\$16,000**  
whole team

### ☐ ☐ Rigging Recertification

**\$6,000**  
whole team

### ☐ ☐ Advanced Avalanche Education

**\$3,000**  
7 volunteers

### ☐ ☐ Next Level Snowmobile Riding Clinic

**\$2,800**  
7 volunteers



## SPONSORSHIP

### Backcountry Zero General Sponsor

Kids and adult programming, preventative outreach on multiple outdoor activities, and BackcountrySOS updates are just a few of the ways Backcountry Zero is supporting our community. By sponsoring Backcountry Zero, you're helping to reach the goal of fewer injuries and deaths in the backcountry.

**\$5,000**  
per sponsorship

### WYSAW Sponsorship

The Wyoming Snow and Avalanche Workshop is the marquee event to educate our community and beyond in winter backcountry education. With over 1,000 participants in 2020, WYSAW is an incredible way to align your business with committed winter enthusiasts.

**\$500-\$10,000**

### The Fine Line Podcast Sponsors

With over 5,000 listens per episode, The Fine Line podcast is produced monthly and includes stories of rescues, preparedness, and lessons learned from the Jackson Hole backcountry. Sponsorships can be tailored to your needs and budget, and is one of the most effective ways to reach your customers in an engaging way.

**\$2,500- \$5,000**

If you are interested in funding one of our "Wish List" items for 2021, please contact us.  
[TetonCountySAR.org/Donate](https://TetonCountySAR.org/Donate)  
[info@tetoncountysar.org](mailto:info@tetoncountysar.org)  
(307) 413-0604

## VOLUNTEER WELLNESS SUPPORT

First responders throughout the community need our support to stay resilient, fresh and ready to respond. By providing meals, wellness stipends, and mental health support, the Foundation wants to make sure each volunteer has what they need to be ready to go at a moment's notice.

### Meals and Snacks

Covers one month of training meals and rescue snacks for volunteers. We also love to partner with restaurants and chefs who are willing to donate full or partial meals for our volunteers. If you are interested in this opportunity to support our team please reach out.

**\$2,200**

### Mental Health and Wellness

Anonymous trauma therapy sessions and annual peer support and resilience training with Laura McGladrey for all Teton County first responder groups.

**\$15,000**

### Wellness Stipends for TCSAR Volunteers

**\$20,000**

## EQUIPMENT

### Snowmobile

An essential tool for winter rescues. By keeping a fleet of snowmobiles ready to go, we're able to respond to winter backcountry emergencies whenever the call comes in: at night, in poor weather and whenever a helicopter can't fly. The team trains throughout the winter on these machines with advanced training opportunities

**\$13,000**

### Forward Ops Trailer

Thirty below zero? No problem. Overnight rescue? Check. Having a forward ops trailer ready for special circumstances means volunteers can stay out longer, be more efficient and get the recovery they need before heading back out into the field.

**\$20,000**

### Jet Boat

Our current jet boat is over 20 years old. It still has river legs but doesn't have the features needed in the ever-changing water conditions of the Snake. It's time for an upgrade.

**\$65,000**



# Thank you to our business & community sponsors



LOCKER ROOM  
FOR VOLUNTEERS

"WINTER WELCOME"  
RAISED \$34,700  
FOR TCSAR

DONATED QUICHE AND CINNAMON  
BRIOCHE FOR EACH VOLUNTEER AND  
THEIR FAMILIES AT THE HOLIDAYS

COFFEE FOR ALL  
WYSAW PARTICIPANTS

Arc'teryx  
Black Diamond  
Bubba's  
C. David Clauss, Attorney at Law  
**Community Foundation of JH**  
Fine Dining Restaurant Group  
First Interstate Bank  
Flylow

Inversion Yoga  
Jackson Hole Mountain Resort  
**JH Sports**  
Jackson Lake Lodge Co.  
Kate's Real Food  
Local  
Lockhart Cattle Company  
Long Reimer Winegar Beppler

Mammut  
Mountain Khaki  
The North Face  
Pica's Mexican Taqueria  
**Picnic**  
Pursue Movement  
Raintree Foundation  
Roadhouse Brewing

RPK3 Law LLC  
Skinny Skis  
**Snake River Roasting**  
Snow King Mountain  
STEP  
StillWest Brewery  
Stio  
Teton County Sheriff's Office



**Premier Sponsors:**  
Community Foundation of Jackson Hole  
Grand Teton National Park - Jenny Lake Rangers  
Jackson Hole Mountain Resort  
Raintree Foundation  
Rocky Mountain Bank  
Teton County Sheriff's Office

FREE AND CONFIDENTIAL  
TRAUMA THERAPY FOR  
FIRST RESPONDERS AND THEIR FAMILIES

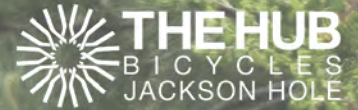
## Education Sponsors:

American Avalanche Association  
American Avalanche Institute  
Architectural Stone & Tile  
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Grand Teton Lodge Co.  
Guild Mortgage  
Headwall Sports  
Hoback Sports  
The Hub  
Jackson Hole Babe Force  
JH Outdoor Leadership Institute

JH Ski & Snowboard Club  
Jenny Lake Rangers  
JH Travel & Tourism Board  
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PAWS  
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Stinky Prints  
Stio  
Teton County Sheriff's Office  
The Mountain Riding Lab



Sponsored by



MOUNTAIN

W • I • Y • P

— BIKE —



TOPICS COVERED

- What's in Your Pack
- How to Fix a Flat
- Essential First Aid
- Broken Chain Repair

June 15th  
5:30 - 8:00pm

WOMEN'S CLINIC  
July 7th  
5:30 - 8:00pm

Clinics will be held at the TCSAR Hangar, \$15 registration includes goody bag and snacks.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, COVID-19 PROCEDURES, AND REGISTRATION  
VISIT [BACKCOUNTRYZERO.COM/EVENTS](https://backcountryzero.com/events)



The Fine Line  
presents

# The RAY SHRIVER Story



Father, loving partner, adventurer,  
mountaineer, mentor, dog handler,  
Search and Rescue volunteer for  
more than 20 years.

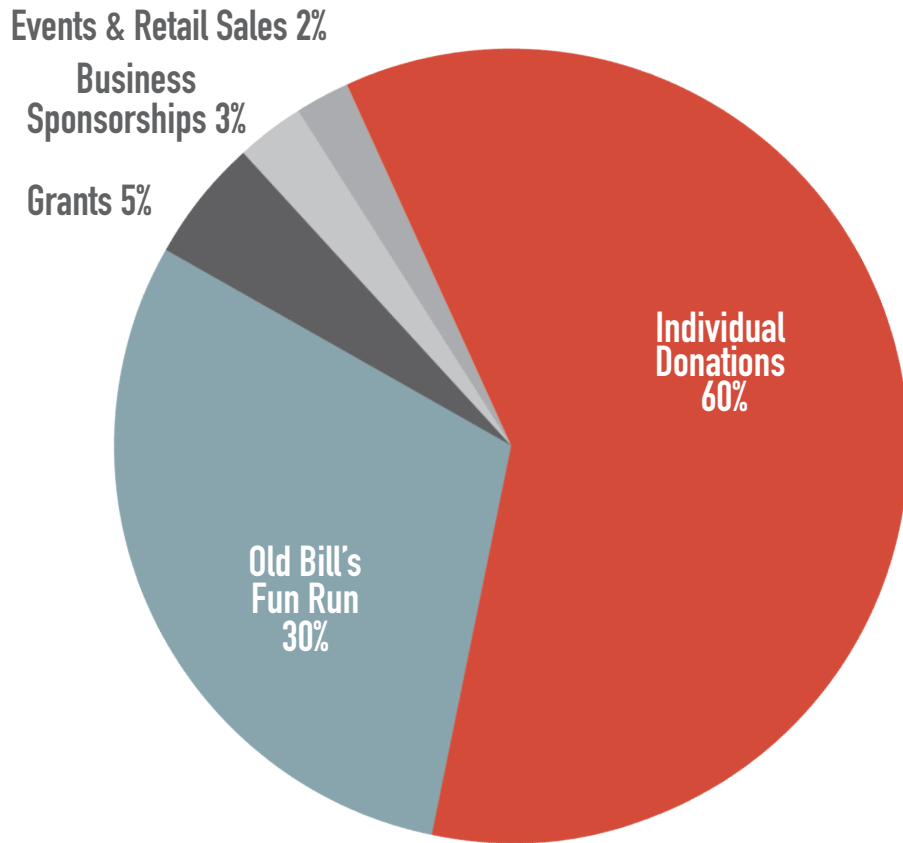
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Sponsored by Roadhouse Brewing  
[www.BackcountryZero.com](http://www.BackcountryZero.com)



# HOW TCSAR FOUNDATION IS FUNDED



## TCSAR FOUNDATION MISSION

TCSAR Foundation supports Teton County Search & Rescue through direct volunteer support, community education and advocacy.

Our volunteers respond to calls  
24/7/365.

THANK YOU TO THESE LOCAL EMPLOYERS FOR THEIR FLEXIBILITY AND SUPPORT OF OUR VOLUNTEERS!

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| Berlin Architects                           | Katie Murphy State Farm Insurance       |
| Black Fox Rescue Institute                  | Lockhart Cattle Co.                     |
| Capstone Construction & Management, Inc.    | National Outdoor Leadership School      |
| Central Wyoming College                     | OPS Strategies                          |
| Convergence Investments                     | Page and Company Collection             |
| Chris Leigh, Attorney at Law                | Red's Auto Glass                        |
| Cultivar Emergency Medicine of Jackson Hole | Rendezvous River Sports                 |
| Emergency Medicine of Jackson Hole          | Scenic Safaris                          |
| Factory IT                                  | Shervins Independent Oil                |
| Friess Associates                           | Snow King Mountain Resort               |
| Grand Teton National Park Foundation        | St. Johns Medical Center                |
| Jackson Hole Anglers                        | Teton Conservation District             |
| Jackson Hole Children's Museum              | Teton County Search & Rescue Foundation |
| Jackson Hole Fire/EMS                       | Teton County Sheriff's Office           |
| Jackson Hole Mountain Resort                | Teton Timber Frames                     |
| Jackson Hole Outdoor Leadership Institute   | Wind River Capital Management           |
| Jackson Hole Paint and Glass                | Wounded Bear Medicine                   |
| Jen Reddy Ink                               |   |



TCSAR Foundation  
PO Box 1063  
Jackson, WY 83001

