

2022 MIDYEAR REVIEW + **RESCUE REPORT**



DEAR FRIENDS AND SUPPORTERS

Winter is always the busy season for Teton County Search & Rescue, and this year was no exception. This past winter was not a snowy one for Jackson Hole, but that did not slow down the number of accidents in the backcountry. Without our average precipitation, the snow we did have turned hard and stale, making ripe conditions for backcountry accidents. In January and February, we had 27 calls for service that resulted in 15 helicopter rescues. Overall, the team had 43 calls for service, including 21 heli missions, between December 1, 2021, and May 31, 2022. Tragically, this tally included four fatalities.

It's important to point out that TCSAR does not do these rescues by ourselves. We are one piece of a network of first responders that shows up to help those in need. This past winter we worked with partners around the county, including Teton County Sheriff deputies and dispatchers, the National Park Service, the U.S. Forest Service, Jackson Hole Fire/EMS, ski patrol at three different resorts (JHMR, Snow King, and Grand Targhee), Togwotee guides, Exum Guides, WYDOT, and others. We cannot do this job alone, and we are thankful for the support of our partners.

This spring we graduated a new class of SAR volunteers. These nine folks have been training and getting to know the rest of the team. Over the past year, they have collectively invested 3,322 hours of training to earn a spot on the team. It is exciting what this new group of folks brings to our ranks. They are competent and committed—the bright future of TCSAR. While all our teammates are talented in the mountains, the hard skills they possess are not what sticks out to me the most. What amazes me about the members of TCSAR are their soft skills, things like compassion, communication, and teamwork. Their commitment to working as a team to solve whatever problem comes up is what makes this all possible.

TCSAR is a grassroots community organization, a team made up of volunteer community members. We are mothers, fathers, spouses, judges, teachers, firemen, ranchers, and so many more things. Our community provides this service to those in need for free. Our funding comes from the State of Wyoming and Teton County tax dollars, as well as direct contributions from a wide swath of our community. What I hope you all know is that Teton County Search & Rescue belongs to the community. Our job is to help those in need regardless of the circumstances, with compassion and without judgment. I am proud to live in a community that makes our job possible.

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 SUPERVISOR

MATT CARR, TCSO SHERIFF

TCSAR volunteers are ready to respond 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, and 365 days a year. Since its inception in 1993, our volunteers have spent thousands of hours honing their skills in all areas of rescue procedures, as well as donating their time at community events to increase backcountry safety awareness.



FROM
DECEMBER 1, 2021 – MAY 31, 2022

TCSAR VOLUNTEERS SPENT
4,709 HOURS
ON SAR-RELATED ACTIVITIES

RESCUES = 1,931 HOURS
TRAINING = 2,533 HOURS
COMMUNITY EVENTS = 245 HOURS

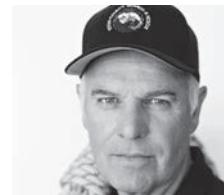
TCSAR VOLUNTEER TEAM MEMBERS



ANDREW ARMINGTON



KC BESS



TIM CIOCARLAN



RYAN COMBS



TOBIN DENNIS



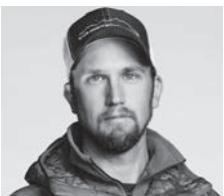
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PHILLIP FOX



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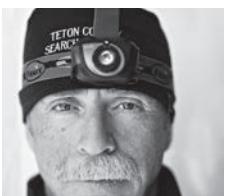
ERIC HELGOTH



IAN JOHNSTON



TED KYLE



CHRIS LEIGH



ETHAN LOBDELL



CHASE LOCKHART



CODY LOCKHART



RYAN MERTAUGH



MIKE MOYER



ALEX NORTON



GALEN PARKE



KEEGAN PFEIL



JEN REDDY



DAN ROGERS



TERRI ROMANOWSKI



ROBB SGROI



SCOTT SHERVIN



WILL SMITH



JENNIFER SPARKS



ANTHONY STEVENS



CHRIS STIEHL



STEPHANIE THOMAS



DOUG VAN HOUTEN



CAROL VIAU



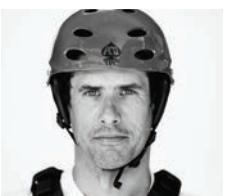
DON WATKINS



LIZZIE WATSON



AJ WHEELER



JON WIEDIE



STEVE WURM



BROOK YEOMANS

TCSAR
EMPLOYEES



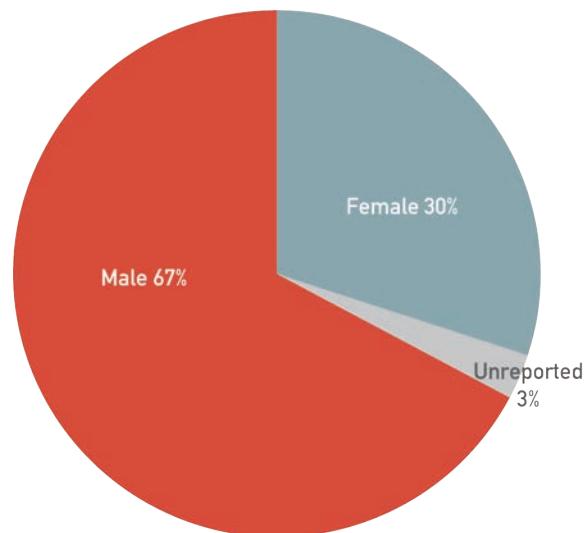
MIKE ESTES
TCSO SAR SUPERVISOR



MATT CARR
TCSO SHERIFF

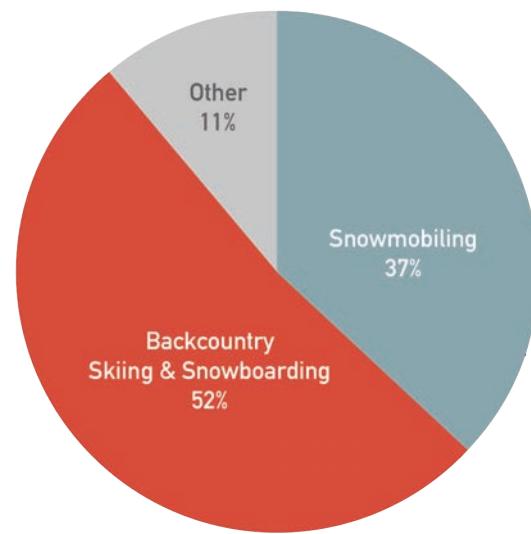
INCIDENTS BY GENDER

WINTER 2021/22

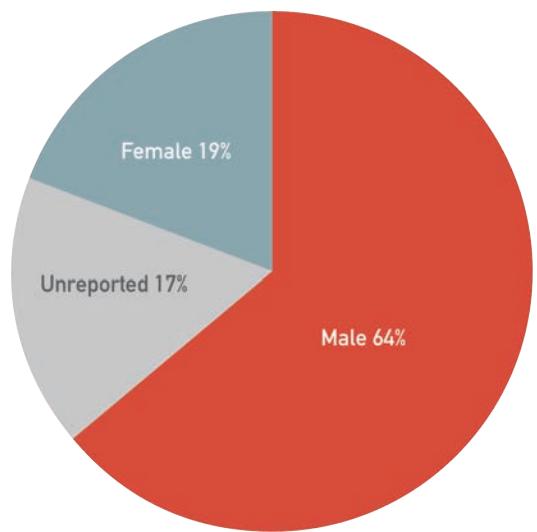


INCIDENTS BY ACTIVITY

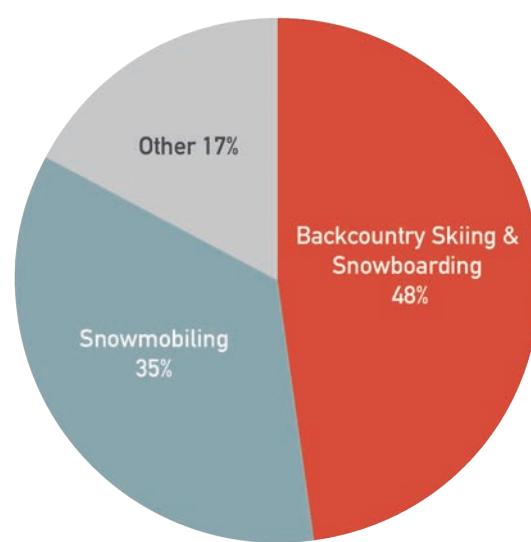
WINTER 2021/22



WINTER 10-YEAR AVG



WINTER 10-YEAR AVG



In Teton County, 911 calls go directly to dispatch at the Sheriff's Office Communications Center. Alerts from the BackcountrySOS app, inReach, and SPOT devices also go to dispatch. If the emergency is in the back-country, dispatch calls TCSAR's Board of Advisors (BOA). 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. In the summaries below, these are noted as Board Call Only. 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. Then, they depart for the mission.

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

All rescues performed by TCSAR are free of charge.

Winter 2022 RESCUE REVIEW

» DECEMBER

RESCUE	Avalanche in the Big Holes
DATE	12/17/21
TIME	3:01 p.m.
DURATION	7 hours, 59 minutes
ATTENDEES	17 team members



WHAT HAPPENED? The TCSAR Board of Advisors (BOA) received a call to assist Teton County Idaho SAR, with an avalanche rescue west of Driggs in the Big Hole Mountains. Two individuals, learned to be teenage boys, were buried while doing snowmobile/ski laps in an area known as Relay Ridge.

The short-haul team was paged to the hangar and flew to the location. Teton County Idaho SAR and Madison County Idaho SAR were also on scene. Additional members were flown to

the scene to assist with probe lines and search. Over the course of two hours, the two buried individuals were recovered but pronounced dead at the scene. An investigation determined that the two boys had not been equipped with proper avalanche safety gear.

RESCUE	Stuck Snowmobiler at Togwotee
DATE	12/19/21
TIME	5:27 p.m.
DURATION	5 hours, 24 minutes
ATTENDEES	19 team members

WHAT HAPPENED? The BOA received notice from dispatch that a snowmobiler was stuck near the K and V trail intersection on Togwotee Pass. After failing to reach area guides to assist, the advisors got in touch with the missing individual and talked him through finding his coordinates on his phone. Rangers with the Bridger-Teton National Forest were willing to assist and located the man at approximately 6:30 p.m. They were able to help the man out of the backcountry and the TCSAR team stood down.

RESCUE	Squaw Basin False Crash Alert Activation
DATE	12/26/21
TIME	2:51 p.m.
DURATION	11 minutes
ATTENDEES	8 team members
BOARD CALL ONLY	

WHAT HAPPENED? The BOA received a call from dispatch regarding an activation from the Life360 Crash Alert App in the Squaw Basin area. The advisors and dispatch were unable to contact the individual. The app company tracked the individual down to advise them that it was a false activation and the board stood down.

» JANUARY

RESCUE	Knee Injury on Windy Ridge
DATE	1/2/22
TIME	3:09 p.m.
DURATION	1 hour, 51 minutes
ATTENDEES	25 team members



WHAT HAPPENED? A woman injured her knee while backcountry skiing on Windy Ridge, on the west side of Teton Pass. After fielding the call, TCSAR assembled a response team in the helicopter, with ground teams and a short-haul crew as backup. The helicopter was able to fly directly to the patient, where she was packaged, loaded into the ship, and flown back to the TCSAR hangar. Her friends took over from there and drove her to higher medical care.

RESCUE	Squaw Basin False Crash Alert Activation
DATE	1/4/22
TIME	2:35 p.m.
DURATION	23 minutes
ATTENDEES	7 team members
BOARD CALL ONLY	

WHAT HAPPENED? For the second time in a week, the BOA was called for a Life360 activation in the Squaw Basin area on Togwotee Pass. Initial phone calls to the party were unanswered. Dispatch called Togwotee guides to see if the person was on a guided tour. Contact was made with the individual and it was determined to be a false activation.

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



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RESCUE

DATE

TIME

DURATION

ATTENDEES

Injured Skier at Snow King Mountain

1/7/2022

4:57 p.m.

1 hour, 3 minutes

24 team members

WHAT HAPPENED? The BOA was contacted with a report of an unconscious skier above the Cougar Lift on Snow King Mountain after the resort had shut down for the day. While volunteers were en-route, ski patrol arrived on scene to care for the patient. TCSAR assisted ski patrol with the injured skier and the rest of the team stood down.

RESCUE

DATE

TIME

DURATION

ATTENDEES

BOARD CALL ONLY

Bacon Ridge False Life360 Activation

1/8/22

4:36 p.m.

1 minute

6 team members

WHAT HAPPENED? TCSAR was notified of an automatic crash alarm near Bacon Ridge. While the board was on conference call with dispatch, Life360 notified dispatch that it was a false activation.

RESCUE

DATE

TIME

DURATION

ATTENDEES

Snowmobile Accident at Granite Falls

1/12/22

3:26 p.m.

2 hours, 34 minutes

20 team members



WHAT HAPPENED? TCSAR was paged to respond to a snowmobile crash in the Granite Falls area, about 19 miles southeast of Jackson as the crow flies. A woman had driven her snowmobile off the edge of the trail and came down with a suspected neck injury and broken femur. Given the nature of the incident, the team dispatched volunteers in the helicopter, with other volunteers driving to the Granite Creek access towing snowmobiles and the RZR as backup. The helicopter team landed near the patient, packaged her, and loaded her inside the ship. They then flew back to Jackson where she was delivered to higher medical care.

RESCUE

DATE

TIME

DURATION

ATTENDEES

BOARD CALL ONLY

Overdue Skiers on Teton Pass

1/14/22

6:21 p.m.

5 minutes

6 team members

WHAT HAPPENED? The BOA was contacted due to overdue skiers on Teton Pass. The skiers had been separated during their descent into Coal Creek. As the board was on the call with dispatch, the skiers were reunited with their group.

RESCUE

DATE

TIME

DURATION

ATTENDEES

BOARD CALL ONLY

False Life360 Activation at Granite Creek

1/16/22

2:45 p.m.

4 minutes

6 team members

WHAT HAPPENED? Teton County Dispatch received a Life360 Crash Alert from Granite Creek and paged the SAR board to determine a course of action. The app company then contacted the subscriber and determined the notification to be a false activation.

RESCUE

DATE

TIME

DURATION

ATTENDEES

Avalanche on South Face of Table Mountain

1/17/22

11:25 a.m.

12 hours

15 team members



WHAT HAPPENED? TCSAR was called about an avalanche on the South Face of Table Mountain, with what looked like ski

tracks going into the slide. The person who called in the slide shared photos of the suspected slide. After determining that the avalanche was within the GTNP boundary, the SAR board notified park personnel who took over Incident Command. The park decided that it merited a reconnaissance flight over the slide path to check for signs of human activity. During the flight, a GTNP ranger and two TCSAR volunteers flew over the avalanche and confirmed there were no ski tracks. The team also conducted a heli beacon check but did not receive a signal. The team stood down.

RESCUE**Skier Injured in the Sliver Couloir**

DATE 1/22/22

TIME 12:07 p.m.

DURATION 2 hours, 53 minutes

ATTENDEES 12 team members



WHAT HAPPENED? GTNP rangers requested an interagency helicopter assist for an injured skier at the bottom of the Sliver Couloir on the East Face of Nez Perce. That morning, two skiers were bootpacking up the Sliver when they were descended upon by a lone snowboarder. One skier was overcome by cascading snow and tumbled several hundred feet down the couloir. TCSAR sent the helicopter to meet Jenny Lake Rangers at Windy Point. TCSAR also sent four short-haul volunteers by ground with the fuel truck as backup. GTNP rangers handled the mission and were able to extricate the patient via helicopter.

RESCUE**Overdue Skier in Bear Canyon**

DATE 1/22/22

TIME 5:08 p.m.

DURATION 31 minutes

ATTENDEES 7 team members

BOARD CALL ONLY

WHAT HAPPENED? The BOA was called for an overdue 72-year-old male skiing in Bear Canyon just northwest of Treasure Mountain in Teton Canyon. The reporting party described last seeing the man above a steep technical area. The BOA requested a ping by dispatch on his phone and sent one member to check the trailhead to see if the person's vehicle was still there. Contact was made by phone with the overdue skier and was reported safe.

BY THE NUMBERS

RESCUE
DATE
TIME
DURATION
ATTENDEES

Neck Laceration on Teton Pass
1/23/22
11:42 p.m.
2 hours, 33 minutes
21 team members



WHAT HAPPENED? A skier became severely injured while descending Chivers Ridge on Teton Pass. The skier had hit a support cable on a power pole and suffered a long gash on his neck as well as a deep cut on his lower leg. With the skier unable to walk or ski out, TCSAR responded with a short-haul helicopter crew, with ground teams as backup. The heli team dropped one SAR member off on scene, while another team member rigged for short-haul. After the patient was assessed and packaged, two SAR members short-hauled the patient to the overflow lot below the pass summit. From there, the patient was transferred to an ambulance.

RESCUE
DATE
TIME
DURATION
ATTENDEES

Spinal injury near Turpin Meadows
1/24/22
11:25 p.m.
2 hours, 35 minutes
18 team members



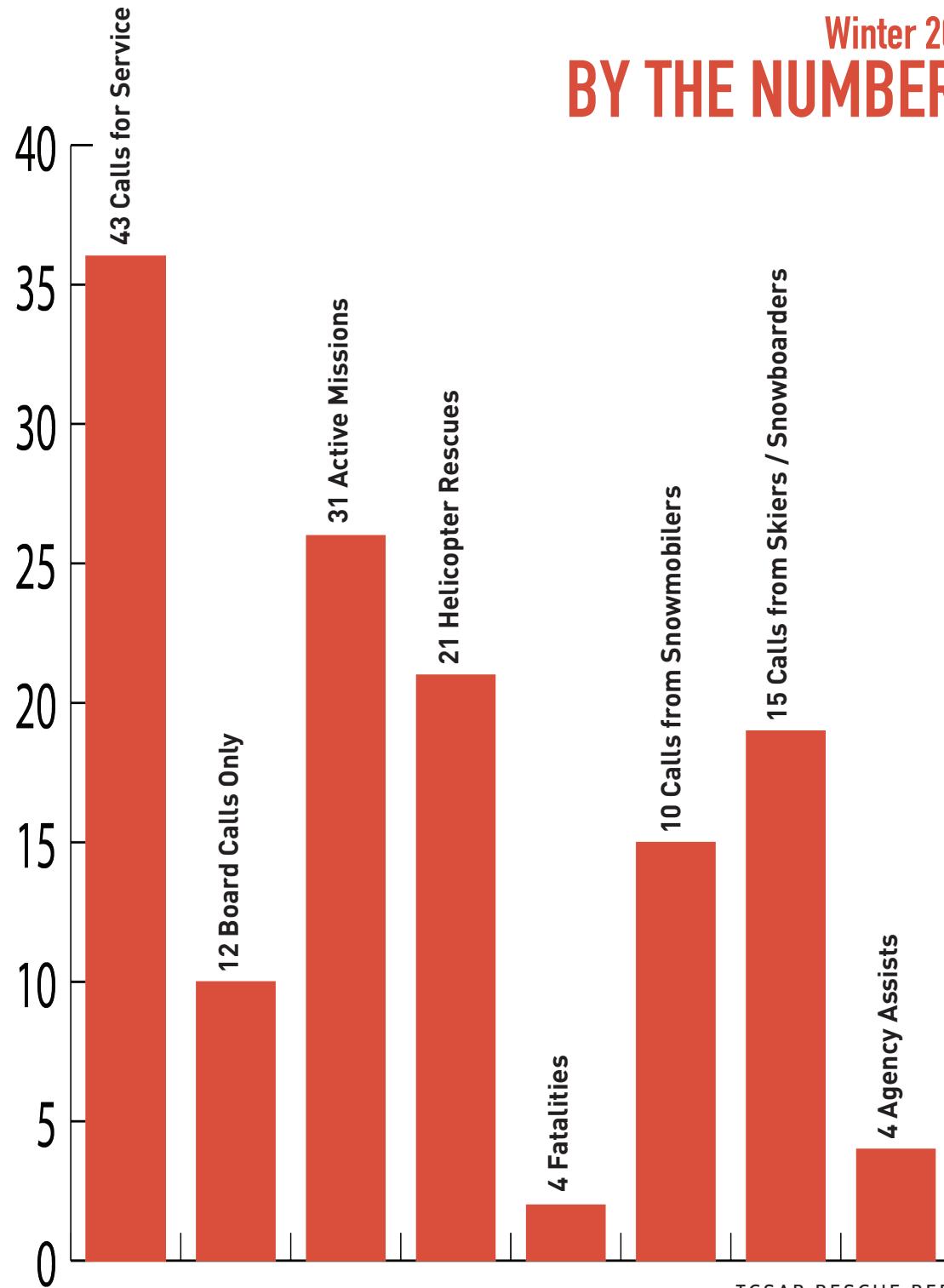
WHAT HAPPENED? During a guided snowmobile trip, a woman fell off her machine and came down with a potential spinal injury about a mile from Turpin Meadows. TCSAR responded with the helicopter and RZR team as backup. The heli team was able to land next to the patient, reconfigure the ship with the platter, loaded her into the heli and flew her to a waiting ambulance at the highway.

RESCUE
DATE
TIME
DURATION
ATTENDEES
BOARD CALL ONLY

Missing JHMR Ski Instructor
1/26/22
10:38 p.m.
9 hours, 16 minutes
6 team members

WHAT HAPPENED? The Board of Advisors was paged concerning a JHMR ski instructor who went to work and never came home. Deputies and dispatch spent hours searching trailheads, parking lots, bars, highway patrol, and Jackson and Driggs police departments without success. TCSAR was alerted in case the subject was found to have gone into the surrounding back-

Cont'd on page 9



ACTIVE SEARCH AND RESCUE LOCATIONS – DECEMBER 1, 2021 – MAY 31, 2022



Map Courtesy of Skinny Skis

Cont'd from page 7

country. As JHMR reviewed pass scans and security footage, the subject was seen on video boarding a START bus to town. Dispatch began calling around town and learned the subject had checked into a local hotel the previous night, and the team stood down.

RESCUE	Injured Skier in Mail Cabin
DATE	1/28/22
TIME	1:30 p.m.
DURATION	2 hours
ATTENDEES	16 team members



WHAT HAPPENED? A woman injured her knee while skiing near the top of Mail Cabin, on the west side of Teton Pass. TCSAR assembled a ski team as backup for a heli team. The heli found a good landing zone near the patient, and she was packaged and transported inside the ship back to the hangar, where she self-transported to higher medical care.

» FEBRUARY

RESCUE	Lost Skier at Grand Targhee
DATE	2/3/22
TIME	4:28 p.m.
DURATION	1 hour, 5 minutes
ATTENDEES	16 team members

WHAT HAPPENED? Grand Targhee Ski Patrol notified TCSAR that they were actively seeking a skier who'd gone missing after descending north and out of the ski area boundary. TCSAR readied a response with heli and ground teams. Just before 5 p.m., ski patrol had located the missing skier and were hiking back to the resort on snowshoes. The team stood down after everyone was back inbounds.

RESCUE	Injured Snowmobiler on Togwotee
DATE	2/6/22
TIME	11:58 a.m.
DURATION	3 hours, 47 minutes
ATTENDEES	17 team members



WHAT HAPPENED? TCSAR was paged to respond to the Togwotee Pass area after a young man had crashed on his snowmobile

with the sled landing on top of him. The report came in of a possible spinal injury due to the patient's inability to feel his arms and legs. A helicopter team was sent as the initial response with a snowmobile team as backup. The helicopter landed near the patient, where he was packaged and loaded into the ship for transfer to a waiting ambulance.

RESCUE	Missing Snowboarder on Table Mountain
DATE	2/4/22
TIME	5:23 p.m.
DURATION	1 hour, 27 minutes
ATTENDEES	7 team members
BOARD CALL ONLY	

WHAT HAPPENED? SAR Board was paged for a young male who was snowshoeing with a group on Table Mountain and decided to solo snowboard down the Face Trail. During the descent his binding broke above the cliffs and he couldn't figure out how to get down. Teton County Idaho SAR was requested to assist and sent a team member to the trailhead to help the subject navigate down through the cliff area. As the team member was getting ready to leave the trailhead, the subject arrived and had self rescued from above the cliffs.

RESCUE	Injured Skier on Pucker Face
DATE	2/7/22
TIME	10:58 a.m.
DURATION	1 hour, 47 minutes
ATTENDEES	13 team members



WHAT HAPPENED? A skier suffered a leg injury after descending Pucker Face, a steep backcountry zone just south of the Jackson Hole Mountain Resort boundary. Jackson Hole Ski Patrol responded initially, and after assessing the patient alerted TCSAR that the skier would need a helicopter extraction. As TCSAR flew to the scene, ski patrol packaged the patient and he was short-hauled to an ambulance at the base of Teton Village.

RESCUE	Injured Snowmobiler at Granite Creek
DATE	2/8/22
TIME	12:55 p.m.
DURATION	2 hours, 29 minutes
ATTENDEES	26 team members



WHAT HAPPENED? TCSAR volunteers were paged for the third



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day in a row. This time, the team was called to respond to a snowmobiler with a serious upper leg injury several miles up the Granite Creek drainage in the Gros Ventre Mountains. The team responded with a helicopter and ground team as backup. The helicopter team was able to land near the patient, who was packaged by the volunteers and transported to an ambulance at the trailhead.

RESCUE	Missing Snowmobiler at Brooks Lake
DATE	2/11/22
TIME	5:03 p.m.
DURATION	54 minutes
ATTENDEES	6 team members
BOARD CALL ONLY	

WHAT HAPPENED? The Board of Advisors received a call for a missing snowmobiler who left his guided group at Brooks Lake Lodge and failed to return. Local guides actively searched for the man and called TCSAR for potential assistance. Dispatch tried pinging his phone but got no response. Advisors stayed in touch with the guides and soon learned that the man had been found after running out of gas.

RESCUE	Fallen Skier in Apocalypse Couloir
DATE	2/13/22
TIME	2:30 p.m.

DURATION
ATTENDEES

3 hours, 30 minutes
16 team members



WHAT HAPPENED? GTNP rangers paged TCSAR for a helicopter assist after a skier had fallen down the Apocalypse Couloir. A short-haul team from TCSAR geared up and met GTNP personnel at Windy Point. The helicopter flew two rangers and one TCSAR volunteer to the scene to see if they could help revive the patient. But unfortunately, he did not survive the fall. The ship returned to Windy Point to rig for short-haul with two TCSAR volunteers. That team flew back to the scene and short-hauled one companion out of the backcountry in the screamer suit, while the deceased patient was flown out to Windy Point. The remaining responders and companion skiers were then loaded internally in the ship and transported out to safety.

RESUE
DATE
TIME
DURATION
ATTENDEES

Broken Arm in Rock Springs
2/16/22
3:37 p.m.
1 hours, 38 minutes
13 team members



WHAT HAPPENED? Jackson Hole Ski Patrol notified TCSAR that they were responding to a male skier with a broken arm in Rock Springs Canyon. After assessing the patient, ski patrol re-



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quested a helicopter evac. TCSAR assembled a short-haul team as ski patrol readied the patient for pickup. He was then short-hauled to the Teton Village LZ and transferred to an ambulance.

RESUE

Lost Snowboarders at JHMR Backcountry

DATE

2/18/22

TIME

2:11 p.m.

DURATION

1 hour, 35 minutes

ATTENDEES

15 team members



WHAT HAPPENED? Jackson Hole Ski Patrol alerted TCSAR that they were actively searching for two female snowboarders reported to be lost outside the JHMR boundary. With another active mission taking place for an injured snowmobiler on the west side of the Tetons, TCSAR flew over the area where the women were thought to be lost. They were not spotted and the heli continued on to the other rescue. Shortly after, ski patrol made verbal contact with the women, who were hiking back up to Tensleep Bowl to the resort.

RESUE

Injured Snowmobiler at Pinnacle Peak

DATE

2/18/22

TIME

2:51 p.m.

DURATION

2 hours, 37 minutes

ATTENDEES

18 team members



WHAT HAPPENED? TCSAR was paged to respond to a snowmobiler with a broken femur on Pinnacle Peak, on the west side of the Tetons. Volunteers dispatched a helicopter team with snowmobiles as backup. The helicopter landed near the patient, who was packaged and flown to higher medical care in Driggs, Idaho. One SAR volunteer stayed in the field and skied to a lower elevation due to incoming weather dropping the ceiling. That team member was picked up by the heli and flown to the hangar in Jackson.

RESUE

Stuck Snowmobilers at Black Rock

DATE

2/24/22

TIME

12:08 p.m.

DURATION

42 minutes

ATTENDEES

7 team members

BOARD PAGE ONLY

WHAT HAPPENED? A father and daughter riding tandem on a

rental snowmobile got their machine stuck in a ravine about three miles from the USFS Black Rock Ranger Station. Forest Service personnel were able to respond and help them get out.

RESUE

Injured Skier in the Do-It Chutes

DATE

2/27/22

TIME

1:45 p.m.

DURATION

33 minutes

ATTENDEES

22 team members



WHAT HAPPENED? TCSAR was alerted to a female skier who had injured her knee after hitting a rock in the Do-It Chutes, on the west side of Teton Pass. The group of skiers had been trying to descend with the injured patient, but they didn't know if they'd be able to get out before dark. TCSAR sent a hasty team on skis to meet the party, along with a backup team on snowmobiles. When TCSAR volunteers reached the egress of the Do-Its, the injured party was located and the team stood down.

RESUE

Stuck Snowmobilers on Togwotee, OP1

DATE

2/27/22

TIME

4:14 p.m.

DURATION

3 hours, 26 minutes

ATTENDEES

21 team members



WHAT HAPPENED? Two snowmobilers rode their machines north of Togwotee Lodge and down into a steep drainage. In doing so, they'd gone into the Teton Wilderness Area and could not get back out. With nightfall approaching and given the history of rescues in this same area, the team was paged to respond with teams on snowmobiles and in the helicopter. The heli team located the two men and short-hauled them to the nearest parking lot, where a USFS Ranger cited them for violating the wilderness closure.

» MARCH

RESUE

Stuck Snowmobilers on Togwotee, OP2

DATE

3/2/22

TIME

3:33 p.m.

DURATION

2 hours, 27 minutes

ATTENDEES

29 team members



WHAT HAPPENED? The BOA was called to help the same men the team had short-hauled out of the Teton Wilderness just three days prior. After being rescued, the men hired a private helicopter company to retrieve their abandoned snowmobiles. The two men hiked in on snowshoes to rig their machines for the pickup. After the helicopter long-lined the sleds out to the trailhead, the men began snowshoeing back out in deteriorating snow conditions. Deciding that they could not make it out on their own, they called for help. TCSAR responded with the helicopter, which was able to land within 200 yards of the men, and transported them out of the backcountry. Given the men's weakened condition, the response was deemed necessary to avoid a more serious situation later.

RESCUE	Missing Skiers on Teton Pass
DATE	3/13/22
TIME	5:28 p.m.
DURATION	1 hour, 57 minutes
ATTENDEES	23 team members



WHAT HAPPENED? TCSAR was alerted to a pair of missing skiers on Teton Pass. The father and son had left at 8 a.m. and were supposed to return by 2 p.m. When they missed their exit time, they called home, in Driggs, Idaho, to say they had gotten lost while skiing the back slopes of the south side of the Pass. The wife then alerted authorities which dispatched TCSAR. The missing skiers' vehicle was then located at the top of the Pass.

TCSAR responded with a team in the RZR, two ski teams, and the helicopter. The teams headed into the Mosquito Creek area, known as the "Black Hole" due to its tendency to confuse and disorient backcountry users over the years.

As the helicopter searched the area, the skiers were found, uninjured, at 6:55 p.m. The ship landed and volunteers loaded the two skiers inside, and flew them to the TCSAR hangar where they were reunited with family.

RESCUE	Injured Skier at Baldy Knoll Yurt
DATE	3/14/22
TIME	5:10 p.m.
DURATION	17 hours, 50 minutes
ATTENDEES	11 team members

WHAT HAPPENED? A man tore his ACL while skiing near the Baldy

Knoll Yurt, on the west slope of the Tetons. TCSAR was notified on the evening of March 14 that he would need help getting the 5.5 miles out to the trailhead. Rather than rushing an evac in the evening, the skier agreed to spend another night at the yurt. At 7:30 a.m. on March 15, two TCSAR volunteers who live in Teton Valley drove snowmobiles up to the yurt, where they braced the skier's knee and transported him via snowmachine to the trailhead.

RESCUE	Avalanche in Game Creek
DATE	3/17/22
TIME	3:23 p.m.
DURATION	4 hours, 37 minutes
ATTENDEES	23 team members



WHAT HAPPENED? TCSAR volunteers responded to a report of two skiers caught in an avalanche in the Game Creek drainage on the western slope of the Tetons. Initial reports indicated that an older man and older woman were buried and uncovered by their companions. The man was unconscious and not breathing, and companions initiated CPR. The woman was breathing, conscious, and ambulatory. The avalanche was called in by a skier in a different party who had witnessed the event from the opposite side of the drainage.

TCSAR responded via helicopter as companions on the ground continued CPR. While TCSAR was en route, it was determined that the male skier had passed away. The volunteers arrived on scene and transported the woman via helicopter out of the backcountry to a waiting ambulance.

RESCUE	Injured Snowmobiler in Granite Creek
DATE	3/20/22
TIME	10:49 p.m.
DURATION	1 hour, 29 minutes
ATTENDEES	18 team members

WHAT HAPPENED? Dispatch received an SOS activation from a Garmin device in the Granite Creek area explaining that a sled rider flipped and needed help. The patient was unconscious when the reporting party arrived but regained consciousness and breathing. The patient stated that she had hit her head and was experiencing left chest pain. TCSAR sent a snowmobile and RZR team to the trailhead. An ambulance also responded to the trailhead. The patient was transported to trailhead by the group in the field and transferred to the ambulance.



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RESCUE	Injured Snowmobiler on Stateline
DATE	3/24/22
TIME	4:26 p.m.
DURATION	3 hours, 47 minutes
ATTENDEES	21 team members



WHAT HAPPENED? TCSAR received a call about a young male snowmobiler who suffered severe injuries after hitting a tree near the Wyoming/Idaho border. Given the location, Teton County Idaho SAR arrived on scene first and began assessing the patient. Meanwhile, TCSAR deployed four members to the scene on snowmobiles.

Due to the seriousness of the patient's injuries, the team requested a helicopter short-haul operation. After packaging the patient, TCSAR performed the short-haul to a waiting ambulance at 6:51 p.m., and all teams exited the field.

RESCUE	Girl Injured on Togwotee
DATE	3/26/22
TIME	3:53 p.m.
DURATION	3 hours, 52 minutes
ATTENDEES	13 team members



WHAT HAPPENED? TCSAR responded to a call about a young girl with a serious leg injury after a snowmobile accident on Togwotee Pass. The patient complained of being cold, in pain, and described her leg as numb. Volunteers responded with a RZR, snowmobiles and helicopter. The heli team made



contact with the reporting party and landed near the patient. The team then packaged her and transported her to a waiting ambulance.

» APRIL

RESCUE	Stranded Skier on Mount Owen
DATE	4/1/22
TIME	7:34 a.m.
DURATION	4 hours, 26 minutes
ATTENDEES	9 team members



WHAT HAPPENED? GTNP rangers and TCSAR jointly responded to rescue a stranded backcountry skier on the East Prong of Mount Owen after the man became disoriented and lost the night before. On Thursday, March 31, the man had solo skied a couloir on Disappointment Peak. He then decided to climb the Koven Couloir on Mount Owen in anticipation of another ski descent. During his climb, he realized he would be unable to reverse course and climb back down. The man was not carrying a rope. Once he reached the top of the East Prong, conditions in the mountains began to deteriorate, and he found himself in whiteout conditions. He initiated communication with park rangers on his mobile phone and dug a snow cave to spend the night.

Overnight the mountains received over a foot of new snow, making ski conditions more hazardous. In the morning, the man notified rangers that he would not be able to make it

out on his own. At approximately 10:30 a.m. park rangers and TCSAR initiated a joint helicopter response. Rangers and TCSAR short-hauled the man off the mountain to the Jenny Lake Rescue Cache. The man was uninjured and able to self-transport.

RESCUE**DATE****TIME****DURATION****ATTENDEES****Broken Arm on Two Ocean Mountain****4/12/22****12:48 p.m.****2 hours, 57 minutes****22 team members**

WHAT HAPPENED? The BOA received an alert that a male snowmobiler had broken his arm near Two Ocean Mountain on Togwotee Pass. Given the accident's remote location, the team decided to respond with heli and snowmobile teams. The helicopter was able to land near the patient, load him into the ship, and fly him to an LZ near Togwotee Lodge. From there, friends transported the patient the further medical care.

» MAY

RESCUE**DATE****TIME****DURATION****ATTENDEES****Injured Shed Hunter at Sheep Creek****5/1/22****6:18 a.m.****2 hours, 12 minutes****15 team members**

WHAT HAPPENED? Just minutes after the start of the shed antler hunting season on May 1, a woman came down with a suspected broken leg after she fell from her horse in the Sheep Creek area of Curtis Canyon. TCSAR got the call for help and dusted off the wheeled litter and RZR side-by-side for a team ground response. The woman was assessed at the scene, packaged up, and transported via wheeled litter to an ambulance at the trailhead.

RESCUE**DATE****TIME****DURATION****ATTENDEES****BOARD CALL ONLY****Paraglider Down on Snow King****5/24/22****7:39 p.m.****3 minutes****6 team members**

WHAT HAPPENED? The BOA was notified that a paraglider had crashed on Snow King Mountain. Just minutes after the page, however, the subject was located and found to be uninjured. The call stood down.

RESCUE**Swimmer at Hoback Campground****DATE****5/30/22****TIME****3:00 a.m.****DURATION****17 minutes****ATTENDEES****12 team members**

WHAT HAPPENED? The BOA was alerted about a woman who had fallen in the Hoback River near the Hoback Campground. As the team mobilized a swiftwater response, the matter was resolved by local law enforcement, and the team stood down.

RESCUE**Overdue Skier on Teton Pass****DATE****5/30/22****TIME****4:14 p.m.****DURATION****3 hours, 24 minutes****ATTENDEES****8 team members****BOARD CALL ONLY**

WHAT HAPPENED? The BOA received a call for an overdue female skier during the snowy afternoon of May 30. A skier in a separate party had spoken to the woman earlier in the day, and became concerned later when they found her vehicle still at the trailhead. The advisors determined that this was not cause for concern yet. At 7:30 p.m., the woman's car was still in the parking lot and the board reconvened. At that time, the skier let TCSAR know that she was OK and had just taken a few extra laps. The incident was closed.



EVERY RESCUE HAS A STORY.

The Fine Line is a monthly podcast series that tells real stories of adventure, risk and rescue in the backcountry of Jackson Hole, WY.



TCSAR RECEIVES WINTER ACCREDITATION FROM MOUNTAIN RESCUE ASSOCIATION



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Those who keep a close watch on Teton County Search & Rescue are keenly aware of the volunteers' high level of commitment and care, but this winter, the team passed a series of tests demonstrating how very real those skills are.

On January 22, the team earned winter-rescue accreditation from the Mountain Rescue Association, the oldest SAR association in the

country. The accreditation means TCSAR has access to MRA's extensive network of teams from across the country and advanced training opportunities with outside agencies.

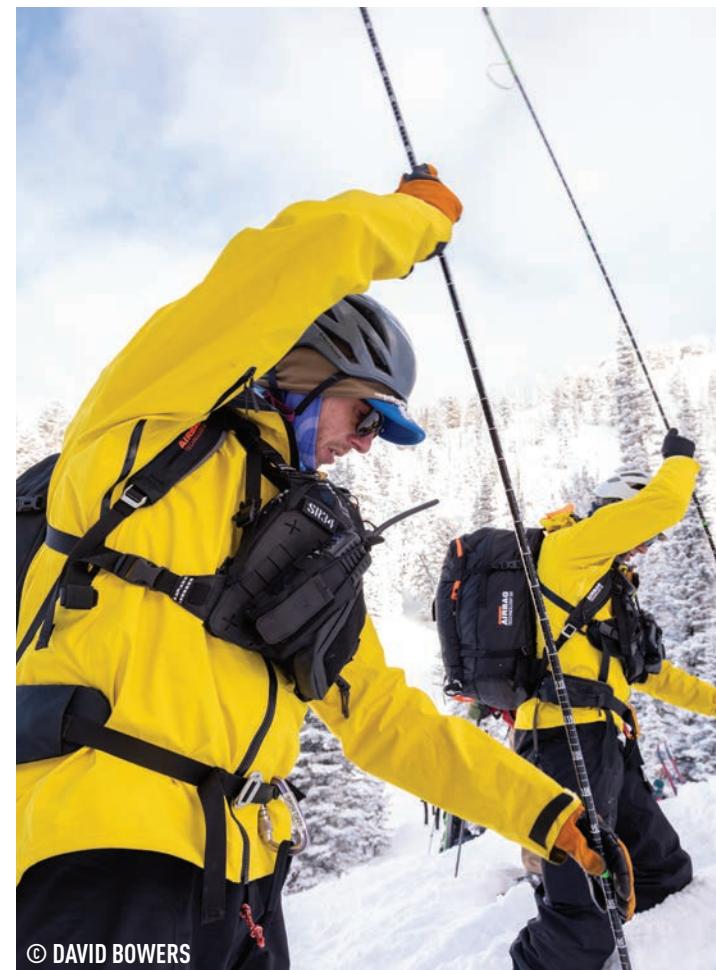
"We are constantly seeking ways to improve, and getting feedback from folks outside our organization can identify things we miss internally," said Doug Van Houten, TCSAR's logistics advisor and team member since 2015. "That we passed with flying colors validates our high training standards and places member expectations inline with industry standards."

The accreditation process consisted of three different field tests administered on Teton Pass. Nineteen volunteers from TCSAR took part, including several members from the team's new class. The team already trains on many of the scenarios featured in the accreditation, but they still ran through the paces during regular team trainings in December and January and practiced on their own time as well. Three members from the local Venture Crew (an affiliate of Boy Scouts of America) also participated as patients.

The biggest piece of the test was a simulated avalanche rescue, consisting of an unknown number of burials, beacon searches, probe lines, uncovering the buried patients, and providing patient care and transport. The test began with a reporting party saying they had seen an avalanche hit another group of skiers but that they didn't know how many people were buried. Under the close observation from four MRA accreditors, the team initiated an Incident Command structure, held a safety briefing to set up roles and responsibilities,

identified external hazards, and then sprung into action.

"Through the beacon search, we found two subjects, one was deceased, and another we got a pulse through CPR," Van Houten said of the simulation. "We provided medical care to that patient, and needed to demonstrate rigging for transport. At the same time, we found another subject hiding in the trees. Through that person, we learned that another skier was missing. We initiated a probe line along a series of clues, going fingertip to fingertip,



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elbow to elbow, and found the last burial subject.”

While the probe line was taking place, other team members were testing on providing patient care and technical rope rigging to transport the first subject. Other parts of the accreditation included an equipment check for five individual members, as well as demonstrating the use of ice axes, crampons, and self-arresting on steep slopes.

To be fully MRA accredited and become a regular member, TCSAR would also need to complete the association’s summer accreditation in Technical Rescue and Search Management. As yet, this hasn’t been scheduled.

“The team values its partnerships and relationships,” Van Houten said. “Accreditation provides additional opportunities for TCSAR to network with other mountain rescue teams to both gather and share ideas and best practices.”

Our volunteers respond to calls 24/7/365.

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

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WIND RIVER CAPITAL MANAGEMENT

WOUNDED BEAR MEDICINE

THIS SHIP SAVES LIVES

Community Support Provides Heli Training for TCSAR Volunteers

Due to generous community support during our spring Heli-Yes! campaign, TCSAR volunteers will have a full schedule of heli training and flight time for 2022/23. By doing rigorous training in places where rescues actually happen, the volunteers are empowered to respond to the most serious incidents.

"There's no replication or substitute for a helicopter in mountain rescue. It is a vital tool for the team and the community," said Cody Lockhart, TCSAR Chief Advisor. "We're incredibly grateful to have such great grassroots community support for this resource."

We extend our sincere thanks to everyone who contributed, with special consideration to the anonymous local donor who provided the challenge match. TCSAR volunteers cannot do what they do without this support.

With the Teton County Sheriff's Office budgeting for eight months of emergency helicopter service, the Foundation relies on private donations from the community to ensure TCSAR volunteers receive adequate heli training to keep themselves and their patients safe during risky operations. This year's Heli-Yes! raised more than \$83,000 toward that effort. Thank you for your support!

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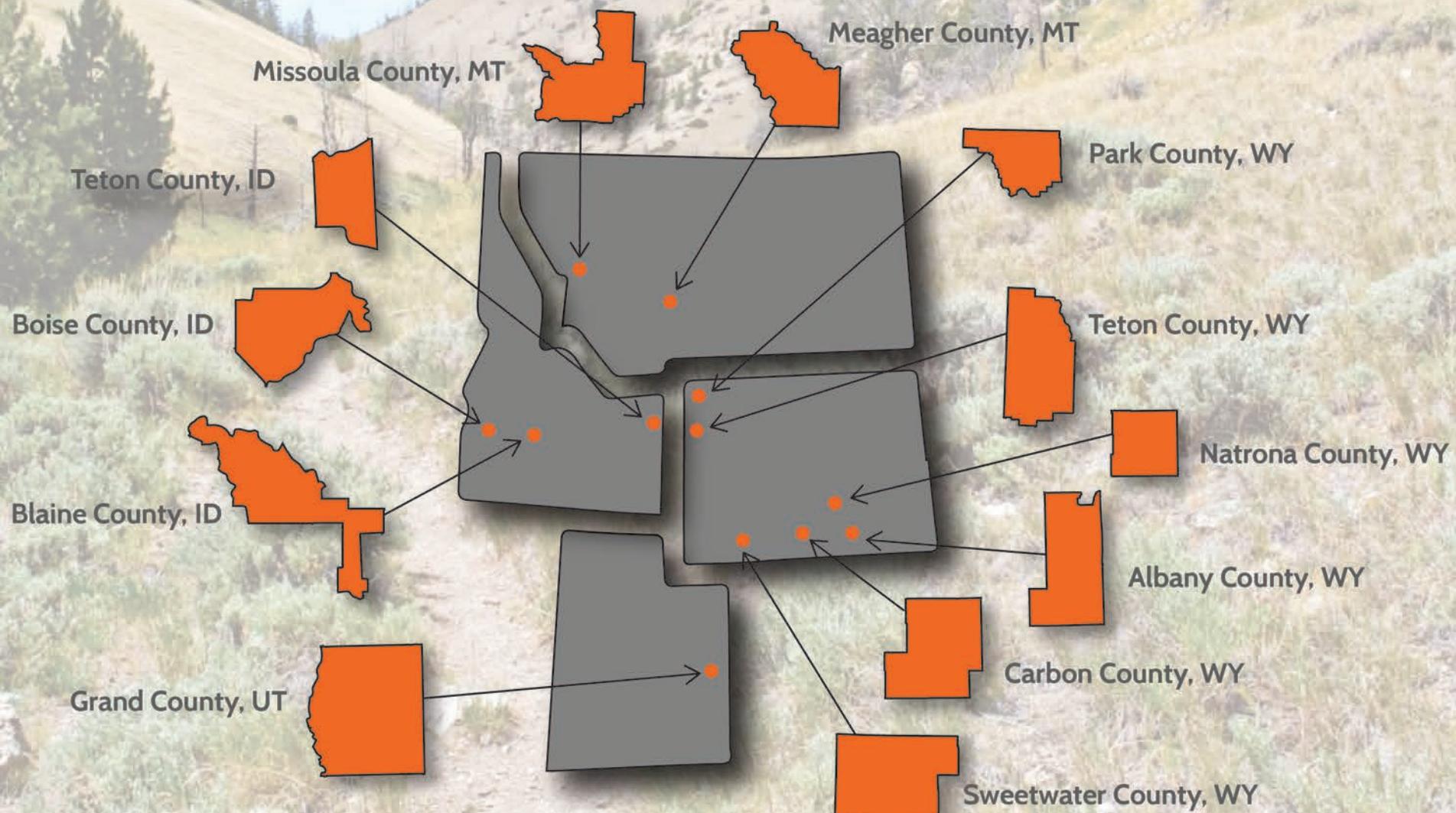




backcountry**sos**

If you're lost, trapped, or injured in a remote location, BackcountrySOS is a great tool to have in your arsenal. The app works wherever text-to-911 service is available. Almost 1,500 counties support text-to-911 with more added each month.

Additionally, the following counties specifically monitor for BackcountrySOS communication on their 911 systems:



2022 MIDSEASON WISH LIST

TCSAR FOUNDATION RAISES MONEY TO SUPPORT SAR VOLUNTEERS WITH EQUIPMENT, PERSONAL WELLNESS AND ADVANCED TRAINING. OUR WISH LIST HIGHLIGHTS SOME OF OUR NEEDS FOR 2022 AND WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR FULL OR PARTIAL FUNDING FOR ANY OF THESE ITEMS. FIND OUT MORE AT WWW.TETONCOUNTYSAR.ORG/WISHLIST.

ADVANCED TRAINING

AFTER THE PANDEMIC CANCELED OR POSTPONED MANY ADVANCED TRAININGS, THE TEAM IS LOOKING FORWARD TO RENEWING THEIR SKILLS IN MANY ASPECTS.

- \$10,000 Individual Advanced Training Opportunities
- \$16,000 Swiftwater Recertification (whole team)
- \$6,000 Rigging Training (whole team)
- \$3,000 Advanced Avalanche Education (7 volunteers)
- \$2,800 Next Level Snowmobile Riding Clinic (7 volunteers)

VOLUNTEER WELLNESS SUPPORT

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 24-7-365.

- \$2,200
Covers one month of training meals and rescue snacks for volunteers.
- \$15,000
Anonymous trauma therapy sessions and annual peer support and resilience training with Laura McGladrey for all Teton County first-responder groups.
- \$20,000
Wellness Stipends for TCSAR volunteers.

MOBILE FORWARD OPS WIFI

- \$1,000
Equipment to convert TCSAR's Starlink system into a mobile unit able to provide internet to remote command stations.

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Backcountry Zero General Sponsor

- \$5,000 per sponsorship
By sponsoring education through Backcountry Zero, you're helping to reach the goal of fewer injuries and deaths in the backcountry.

WYSAW Sponsors

- \$1,000-\$10,000
Our premier winter education event, the Wyoming Snow and Avalanche Workshop is scheduled for October 21-22 at the Center for the Arts. Going into its seventh year, the event continues to grow in attendance (1,000+ in person and virtual viewers) and features speakers on the leading edge of snow and behavioral science. With numerous levels of sponsorship, WYSAW is an excellent way to reach and connect with committed backcountry users.

The Fine Line Podcast Sponsors

- \$2,500-\$5,000
With more than 5,000 listeners per episode, The Fine Line continues to expand its following with a compelling format and storytelling. Sponsorships for our podcast about adventure, risk and rescue can be tailored to your needs and budget, and is one of the most effective ways to reach your customers in a crowded media market.

If you are interested in funding one of our "Wish List" items for 2022, please contact us. info@tetoncountysar.org — (307) 413-0604 or www.TetonCountySAR.org/Donate

SHRIVER SOCIETY



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.

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 three-year gift augments training, equipment and other ancillary support, directly impacting our mission.

“

We decided to become Shriver Society members as we recognized the importance to TCSAR of anticipating future donations so that their operations can continue smoothly. We have a personal connection to TCSAR as they assisted the Jenny Lake Rangers when our son suffered a fatal injury on the South Teton. We were so fortunate that the dedicated volunteers with TCSAR, along with the Rangers, were able to bring our son home that night. Ray Shriver embodied the passion, commitment and skill that all TCSAR members display, which allow all of us to recreate safely in the wonderful outdoors of Jackson.”

— Robin and John Fields

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

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WHAT'S IN Your Pack

GET THE SKILLS TO GET HOME SAFELY.



WEDNESDAY JUNE 22, 2022

5:30 - 8:00 pm at the TCSAR Hangar

Registration is \$20 and includes expert classes, light food, and a goody bag (\$40+ value!).



What's in Your Pack:

Go through the gear you need for a Teton adventure with a pro.

Navigation 101:

Explore route finding with topographical maps & recommended digital tools (including apps!)

Camping in Bear Country:

Learn how to perfect your bear hang and establish a camp in griz habitat.

First Aid for Hikers:

Get coaching from TCSAR on how to treat the common injuries associated with long hikes so you don't miss a mile.

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WEDNESDAY JUNE 29

5:30 - 7:30PM AT THE TCSAR HANGAR

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INCLUDES PIZZA DINNER AND A GOODY BAG!

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**ADVANCED
SKILLS
WORKSHOP**

Recognize & Manage Head Injuries
General Bike Safety Check
Derailleur Adjustment
Suspension Setup

Wednesday, July 13
5:30 - 8:00 pm

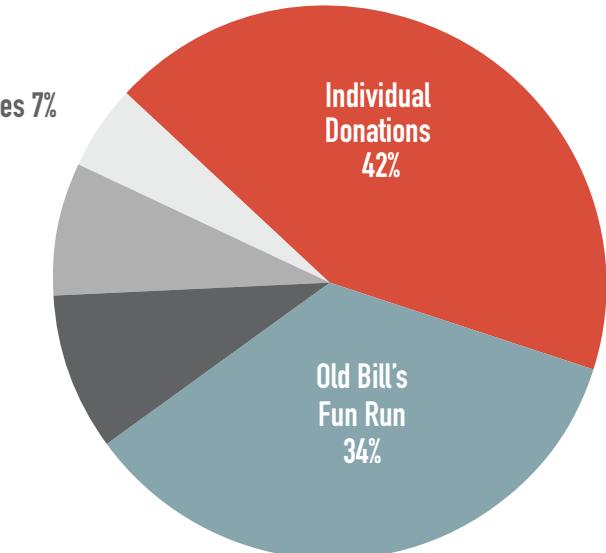


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TCSAR Foundation supports Teton County Search & Rescue volunteers through direct support, community education and advocacy.

HOW TCSAR FOUNDATION IS FUNDED



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FROM THE TCSAR FOUNDATION

The first half of 2022 has been full of hard work and optimism at the TCSAR Foundation. With the volunteers focused on rescues, training, their families and partners, and staying healthy, the Foundation works behind the scenes to support them to make sure they are empowered to help people in need in the backcountry. The job is more important than ever, as trends point to TCSAR volunteers being called more often than at any other time in the near 30-year-history of the team.

The level of professionalism and skill of the all-volunteer team is simply a wonder. We are fortunate to have so much care, commitment, and dedication in our community. The professionalism from the team has led to faster rescues, better patient care, and better long-term outcomes for seriously injured patients.

Over the years, the Foundation has worked with donors from across the spectrum to support the team in many ways. A few recent examples include a rigging wall installed at the TCSAR hangar to aid in their training, new lockers for every volunteer to help speed up rescues, free mental health support for themselves and their families, and hearty meals. We have also worked with donors to upgrade personal equipment as well as outfit TCSAR's first new class of volunteers since 2015. Thank you for this support.

The Foundation has made Preventative Search and Rescue programming a key pillar of our community engagement. Through the Backcountry Zero project, the Foundation invests in backcountry education programs all year long. We are excited once again to be hosting in-person classes at the TCSAR hangar this summer, and look forward to WYSAW in October. Our podcast, The Fine Line, reaches more than 5,000 people every episode. Our staff also reaches hundreds of local school children with outdoor awareness and skills through the Sprouts mobile program and CREST.

As such, Backcountry Zero reaches more backcountry user groups with the goal of enabling honest conversations about risk and decision-making. Every rescue involves a certain level of risk for TCSAR volunteers, and the safest rescue is the one they never do. It's perhaps inevitable that the increase in backcountry visitation will create more rescue calls. But it's not a 1-1 ratio, meaning many adventure seekers are prepared, making good decisions, and being mindful of consequences for themselves and first responders. We believe Backcountry Zero has been part of this evolution.

This winter, the Foundation brought on a new Donor Relations Coordinator, Connor Nolan. Connor was rescued by the team via helicopter short haul in 2017, and he brings that unique perspective to work everyday. He is a great fit with the rest of our hard-working staff, all of whom believe in the essential service of TCSAR and backcountry safety.

Stay active, stay safe, and enjoy this amazing wilderness we all call home.

Jesse Stover
TCSAR Foundation Board President



TCSAR Foundation
PO Box 1063
Jackson, WY 83001

