



2019 END-OF-YEAR REVIEW + **RESCUE REPORT**



DEAR FRIENDS AND SUPPORTERS

Teton County Search and Rescue members volunteer their time, but being a SAR member is not without compensation. The satisfaction, gratification, and pride SAR members receive from saving lives, keeping loved ones together, and serving our locals and visitors alike during some of their worst days are larger than any paycheck we could earn. This past year has been a year filled with such instances, and we've seen excellent growth and improvement for TCSAR along the way. I could not be prouder of our team.

Search and Rescue missions don't just happen; they are the result of all the little things coming together—the years of embedded knowledge, teamwork, training, and dedication. We only have one chance to execute a rescue. If things don't go right, the consequences are high and may mean the difference between life and death. For every hour spent on a rescue, there are probably 10 hours spent maintaining and ordering equipment, training, administrating, organizing, planning, fundraising, and countless other little things.

One of the aspects that differentiates our team from most other rescue teams worldwide is our community involvement through our Foundation, which exists to provide direct volunteer support, community education, and advocacy. That support is applied to multiple fronts, from researching the latest gear, to booking travel, to fundraising for training and equipment, to hosting events that raise awareness for backcountry safety. To support the team and our mission, the Foundation added 1.5 employees in 2019. The new Foundation team members have added energy and expertise that have proved vital to our team rising to the next level.

Also in 2019, the Foundation helped gather community financial support to bring our rescue helicopter here in operation in October, a month earlier than usual. That support resulted in the helicopter performing three rescues in October, one being a life saved. I cannot express how proud the team is when their involvement on a rescue results in saving someone's life and keeping a family together. That is why we volunteer, and we could not do our job without the support of the community.

Growing and improving takes work. The TCSAR organization is full of folks that are willing to put in the effort to make the Teton County backcountry a safer place for people to spend time with their friends and family.

Enjoy the mountains. If something goes wrong, give us a call—we are more than happy to help.

Cody Lockhart, SR#84
Chief Advisor, TCSAR

FOUNDATION BOARD MEMBERS

NED JANNOTTA, PRESIDENT

JESSE STOVER, VICE PRESIDENT

DAVID LANDES, TREASURER

LESLIE MATTSON, SECRETARY

MISSY FALCEY

JENN SPARKS

CLAY GEITTMANN

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DON WATKINS

TOM CHAPMAN

HADLEY HAMMER

SCOTT GUENTHER, GTNP LIAISON

JESSICA KING, TCSO SAR SUPERVISOR

CODY LOCKHART, TCSAR ADVISOR LIAISON

TCSO SAR ADVISORS AND STAFF

CODY LOCKHART, CHIEF ADVISOR

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PHIL (FLIP) TUCKER, LOGISTICS ADVISOR

GALEN PARKE, PLANNING ADVISOR

KC BESS, MEMBERSHIP ADVISOR

ANTHONY STEVENS, TRAINING ADVISOR

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FOUNDATION STAFF

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CASEY LEWIS, DONOR RELATIONS DIRECTOR

MATT HANSEN, COMMUNICATIONS MANAGER

LIZ KING, PSAR MANAGER

CARYN FLANAGAN, DIRECT SUPPORT COORDINATOR

FROM
DECEMBER 1, 2018 - NOVEMBER 30, 2019

TCSAR VOLUNTEERS SPENT

12,963 HOURS

ON SAR-RELATED ACTIVITIES

RESCUES = 4,740 HOURS

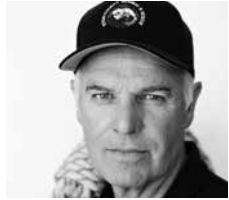
TRAINING = 7,808 HOURS

COMMUNITY EVENTS = 415 HOURS

TCSAR VOLUNTEER TEAM MEMBERS



KC BESS



TIM CIOCARLAN



RYAN COMBS



MICHAEL ESTES



PHILLIP FOX



ED FRIES



ERIC HELGOTH



TED KYLE



CHRIS LEIGH



ETHAN LOBDELL



CHASE LOCKHART



CODY LOCKHART



RYAN MERTAUGH



MIKE MOYER



ALEX NORTON



GALEN PARKE



KEEGAN PFEIL



JEN REDDY



TERRI ROMANOWSKI



ROBB SGROI



SCOTT SHERVIN



WILL SMITH



JENNIFER SPARKS



ALEX ST. CLAIR



ANTHONY STEVENS



CHRIS STIEHL



STEPHANIE THOMAS



PHIL (FLIP) TUCKER



DOUG VAN HOUTEN



CAROL VIAU



DON WATKINS



LIZZIE WATSON



AJ WHEELER



JON WIEDIE

TCSAR EMPLOYEES



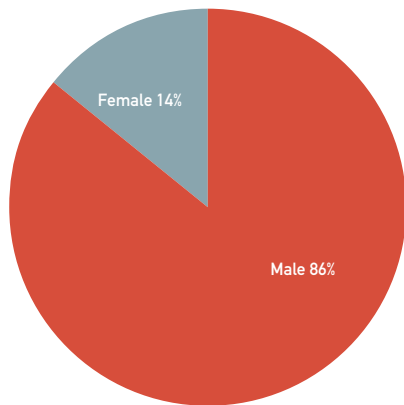
JESSICA KING
TCSO SAR SUPERVISOR



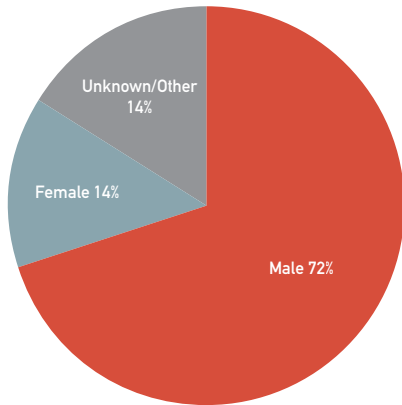
MATT CARR
TCSO SHERIFF

INCIDENTS BY GENDER

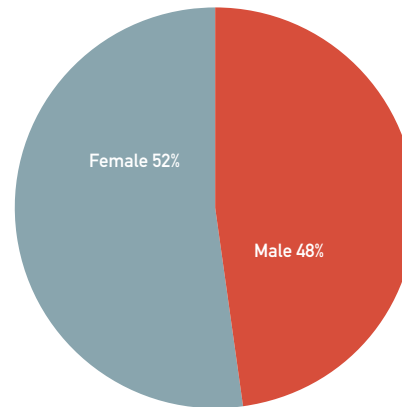
WINTER 2018/19



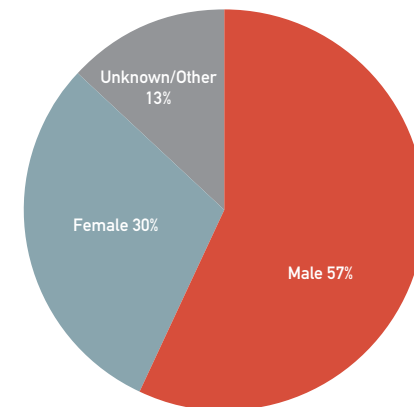
WINTER 10-YEAR AVG



SUMMER 2019

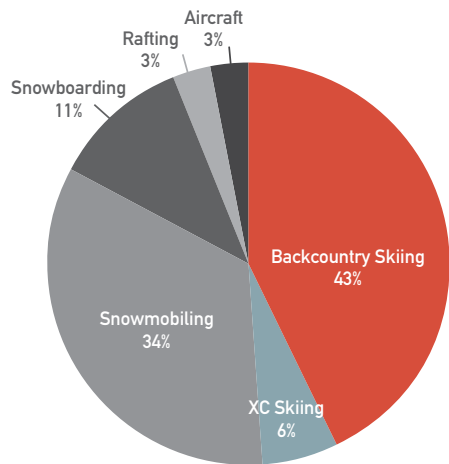


SUMMER 10-YEAR AVG

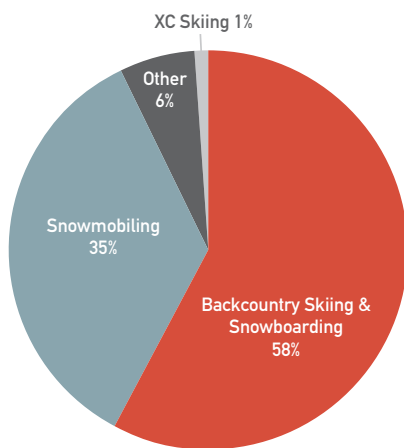


INCIDENTS BY ACTIVITY

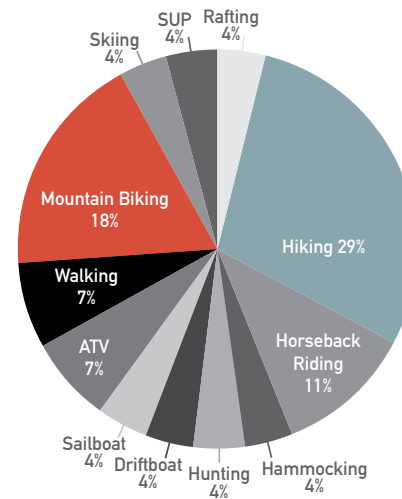
WINTER 2018/19



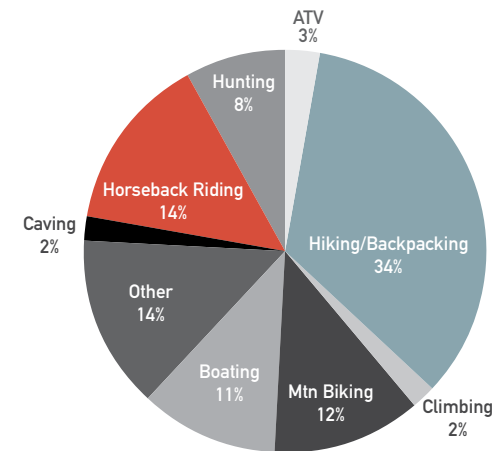
WINTER 10-YEAR AVG



SUMMER 2018



SUMMER 10-YEAR AVG



Summer 2019 RESCUE REVIEW

» JUNE

RESCUE Knee Injury on Powder 8
DATE 6/1/2019
TIME 11:59 a.m.
DURATION 5 hours, 1 minute
ATTENDEES 11 team members

WHAT HAPPENED? Search and Rescue Board of Advisors (SAR BOA) got a page regarding a 24-year-old male skier with an injured knee to the south of the Jackson Hole Mountain Resort boundary. One team approached the man by skiing out the gate at the top of the tram, and another drove a truck to the bottom of the Thunder chairlift. The patient self-skied to gate 3 at the resort, and ascended to the ski area on his own. The team, including members with the Jackson Hole Ski Patrol, transported him down the mountain via toboggan to the snowline, and then he walked to a waiting vehicle.

RESCUE Ankle Injury on Josie's Ridge
DATE 6/2/2019
TIME 3:18 p.m.
DURATION 2 hours, 12 minutes
ATTENDEES 13 team members

WHAT HAPPENED? The BOA was paged for a female hiker with a possible broken ankle about five or six switchbacks up Josie's Ridge. About 50 minutes later, the team reached the patient and transported her down the trail in the wheeled litter.

RESCUE Overturned Raft in Snake River
DATE 6/8/2019
TIME 3:50 p.m.
DURATION 57 minutes
ATTENDEES 9 team members

WHAT HAPPENED? The BOA got a call in reference to an overturned raft on the Snake River near Prichard boat ramp. It turned out to be from a swiftwater rescue class, and no SAR response was needed.

RESCUE Fall from Horse at Pacific Creek
DATE 6/13/2019
TIME 12:26 p.m.
DURATION 5 hours, 4 minutes
ATTENDEES 18 team members

WHAT HAPPENED? The BOA received a page that a 60-year-old woman had fallen off her horse in the Pacific Creek area and dislocated her knee in the process. A helicopter was dispatched to Emma Matilda Road, where it picked up the patient and transported her to an LZ on the Pacific Creek Road. The patient was then transported via ambulance to St. John's Medical Center.

RESCUE Overturned SUPers on Snake River
DATE 6/15/2019
TIME 8:45 p.m.
DURATION 1 hour, 15 minutes
ATTENDEES 17 team members

WHAT HAPPENED? The BOA received a page that three people were in the Snake River, last seen one mile south of Hoback Junction. SAR responded with two trucks loaded with a cataraft and jet boat. With the help of the Teton County Sheriff's Office (TCSO), it was determined that the three boaters (one stand-up paddler and two in an inflatable kayak) had dumped themselves and all of their gear into the river. The boaters initially swam to the east side of the river before swimming to the west side. Three of their friends were also on the scene trying to scavenge their gear in the dark. Sheriff's deputies were instrumental in locating the three swimmers and their friends. One SAR member swam into the river to what he thought was a person, but which turned out to be a log.

RESCUE Stranded Rafters on the Snake River
DATE 6/21/2019
TIME 5:15 p.m.
DURATION 3 hours, 15 minutes
ATTENDEES 16 team members

WHAT HAPPENED? On the evening of the Summer Solstice, the BOA got a call that eight rafters were stranded on a snag in the Snake River. Two teams in jet boats launched from the Wilson boat ramp and reached the group in about 20 minutes. The three coldest passengers were loaded into the first jet boat and

transported to the BLM access point. The second boat arrived and loaded three more people. Two SAR members remained on the snag with the final two passengers, who were subsequently retrieved and transported to the BLM site.

The cottonwood snag was approximately 150 feet from river right across some class II rapids. The scenic float trip that got hung up on the snag had started taking on water, so the guide had his passengers disembark on the snag. The guide attempted to get his raft off the snag and pull alongside, but the current took him to river right, where he landed 1,000 feet down from his passengers. Three other commercial rafts were in the area, two below and one parallel to the stranded rafters. One guide tried twice to walk up a bar braid and row over, without success. The three commercial rafts waited until all passengers had been picked up by SAR and taken to the BLM takeout.



All photos ©TCSAR unless otherwise noted.

RESCUE Fall from Horse up Willow Creek
DATE 6/26/2019
TIME 12:48 p.m.
DURATION 4 hours, 12 minutes
ATTENDEES 20 team members

WHAT HAPPENED? The BOA received a call that a 47-year-old woman had fallen off her horse about an hour up the Willow Creek trail. The woman complained of lower back pain, and was extricated via ATV and truck.

RESCUE Ankle Injury up Shoal Falls Trail
DATE 6/28/2019
TIME 10:02 p.m.
DURATION 21 hours, 28 minutes
ATTENDEES 14 team members

WHAT HAPPENED? The BOA received a page that a 13-year-old girl on a backpacking trip had rolled her ankle about six miles up the Shoal Falls trail. Due to the late hour and non-life-threatening injury, it was determined that SAR would be dispatched in the morning. Two teams, one on foot and another on horses, reached the patient at 12:35 p.m. and transported her out on horseback.

» JULY

RESCUE Missing Person on Snake River, OP 1
DATE 7/4/2019
TIME 10:50 a.m.
DURATION 6 hours, 10 minutes
ATTENDEES 21 team members

WHAT HAPPENED? At 10:50 a.m. on July 4, the BOA was paged about a young man who hadn't been seen since the night before along the Snake River south of Jackson. SAR responded with a drone over the river, a jet boat, and search dogs. About four hours after initial response, the dogs hit on an eddy, which the team dragged with a treble hook to no avail. With few clues to go on, teams from TCSAR, Lincoln County Sheriff's Office, and Teton County Sheriff's Office called off the search that evening and prepped to begin again the next morning.

RESCUE Missing Person on Snake River, OP 2
DATE 7/5/2019
TIME 8:00 a.m.
DURATION 9 hours, 30 minutes

ATTENDEES 13 team members

WHAT HAPPENED? Two jet boats launched at Pritchard boat ramp to continue the search for the missing person. The teams went up to the Snake/Hoback confluence and down to the Elbow section, contacting boaters and campers to advise them of the nature of the search. The teams also searched small braids and eddies. Meanwhile, two ground teams searched the river banks and nearby areas, again without success. Teams returned to the TCSAR hangar at 5:30 p.m.

RESCUE Injured Hikers on Table Mountain
DATE 7/11/2019
TIME 3:31 p.m.
DURATION 4 hours, 19 minutes
ATTENDEES 14 team members

WHAT HAPPENED? The BOA received a call that a group of approximately 30 hikers on Table Mountain had two people with injuries. One person had a hurt ankle, and another complained of suspected altitude sickness. SAR dispatched two teams: one on the ground and another in the interagency helicopter that was diverted from a fire on the Snake River to help the injured hikers. The helicopter landed on Table Mountain and flew both patients to a waiting ambulance at the Driggs-Reed Municipal Airport.

RESCUE Missing Person on Snake River, OP 3
DATE 7/12/2019
TIME 5:00 a.m.
DURATION 3 hours, 12 minutes
ATTENDEES 2 team members

WHAT HAPPENED? Two SAR members took the jet boat out to search the Snake River for the person who'd been missing since July 4. They searched both sides of the river and covered 32 miles, but found no clues. Two days later, on July 14, the person's remains were found by a private boater near the mouth of Palisades Reservoir, 25 miles downriver from where he was believed to have disappeared. The body was retrieved from the water by Star Valley Search and Rescue.

RESCUE Stranded Boater on Slide Lake
DATE 7/19/2019
TIME 4:06 p.m.
DURATION 54 minutes
ATTENDEES 15 team members

WHAT HAPPENED? A 19-year-old female became stranded in her

sailboat on Slide Lake. As the team assembled to respond, a TCSO deputy made it to the scene and was able to help her get her boat to shore. The team stood down.

RESCUE Missing Person up Cache Creek
DATE 7/22/2019
TIME 7:25 p.m.
DURATION 60 minutes
ATTENDEES 17 team members

WHAT HAPPENED? The BOA received a page about a missing person up Cache Creek. A decision was quickly made to locate the subject before nightfall using mountain bikes and an ATV. A sheriff's deputy arrived with a side-by-side and transported a SAR member and a bike to the end of road. Parties in the area were interviewed to see if they had seen the individual. The person's family was on scene and was able to provide pictures and information about the individual as well as location of a last ping from a GPS tracking device. Rescuers made contact and assisted the person back to the road and transported him to the trailhead. The patient was handed off to family members.

» AUGUST

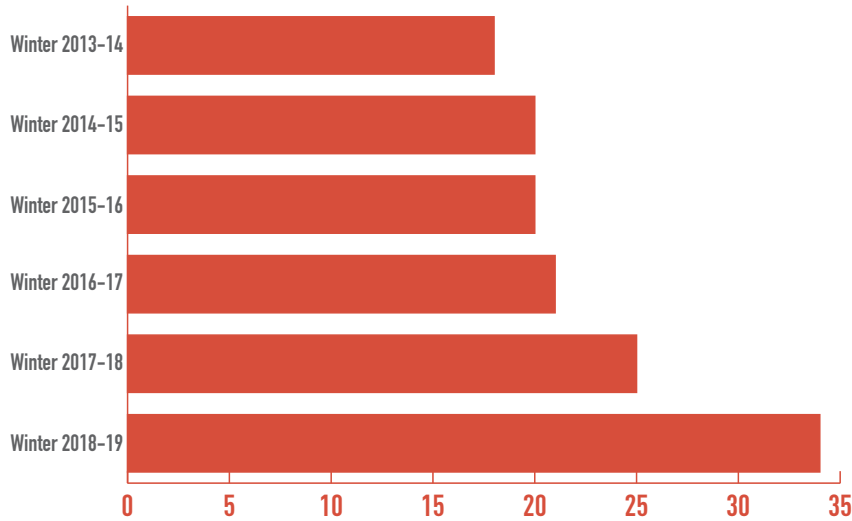
RESCUE Injured Backpacker at Enos Lake
DATE 8/1/2019
TIME 4:09 p.m.
DURATION 3 hours, 21 minutes
ATTENDEES 14 team members

WHAT HAPPENED? The BOA received a page that a 55-year-old woman had injured her knee at Enos Lake, about seven miles from the Pacific Creek trailhead. Due to her injury, she could not walk out, so her partner hiked out to make the call. Given the late hour, the decision was made to evacuate the patient via interagency helicopter.

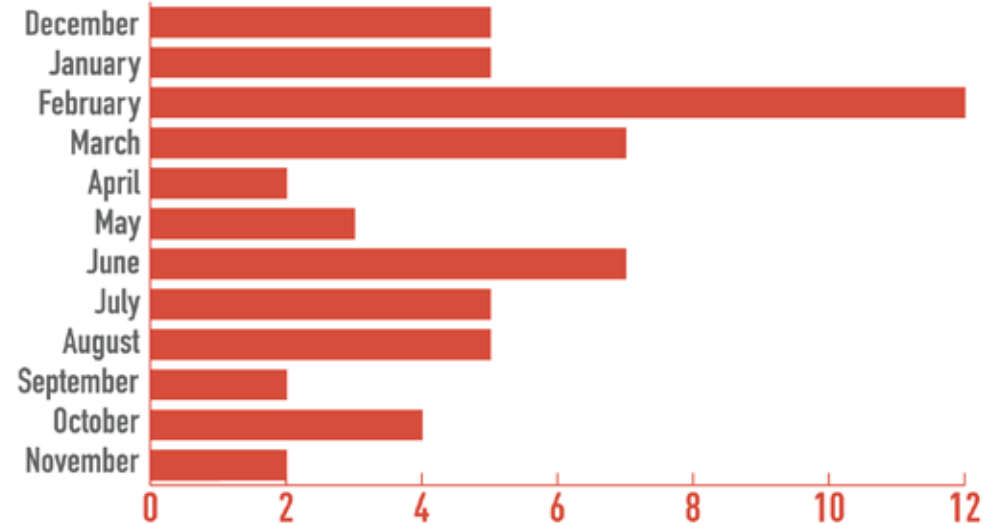
RESCUE ATV Accident up Gros Ventre Road
DATE 8/3/2019
TIME 3:31 p.m.
DURATION 22 minutes
ATTENDEES 10 team members

WHAT HAPPENED? The BOA received a page regarding a four-wheeler that was reported to have driven off the Gros Ventre Road, over a cliff and into Slide Lake. The patient, however, was not seriously injured and did not need medical transport. Sheriff's deputies and Jackson Hole Fire/EMS responded and handled the call.

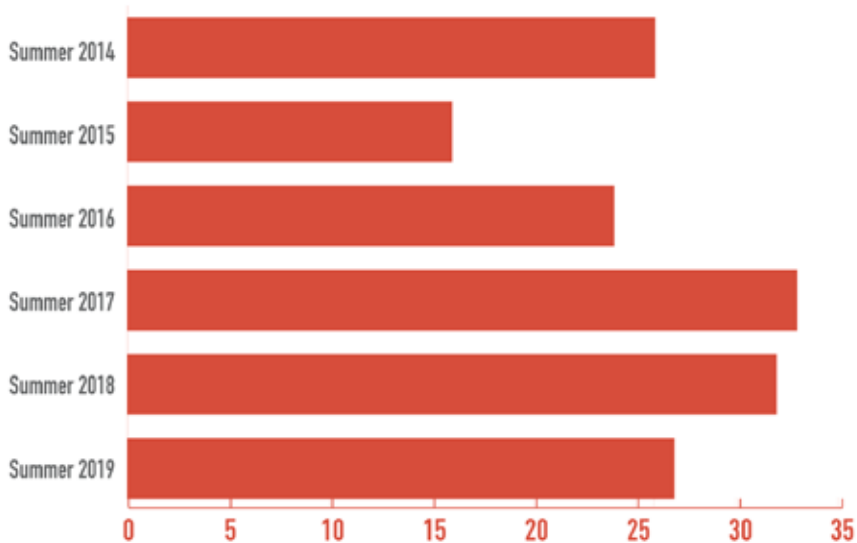
ACTIVE SAR INCIDENTS PER WINTER



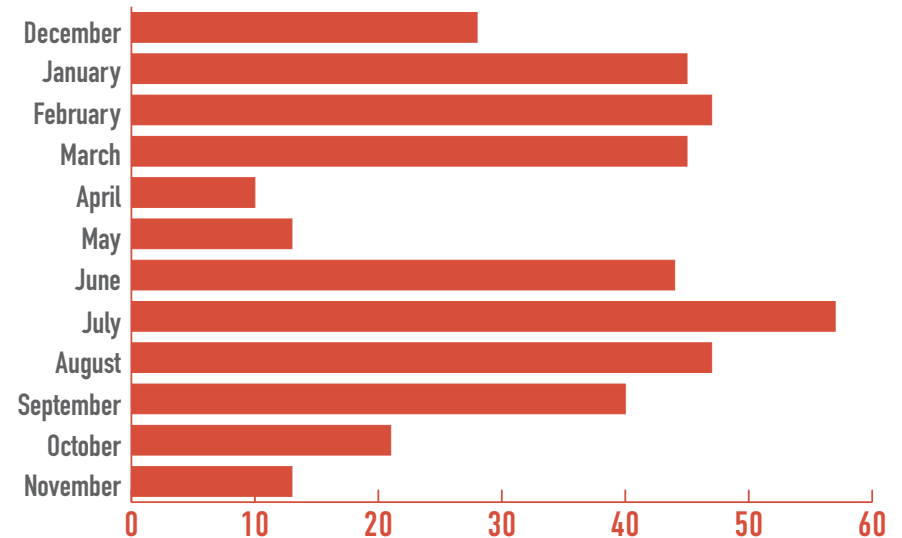
INCIDENTS BY MONTH 2018/2019



ACTIVE SAR INCIDENTS PER SUMMER



10-YEAR TOTALS BY MONTH



SEARCH AND RESCUE LOCATIONS – DECEMBER 1, 2018 – NOVEMBER 30, 2019



RESCUE **ATV Accident up Gros Ventre Road**
DATE **8/4/2019**
TIME **5:59 p.m.**
DURATION **2 hours, 1 minute**
ATTENDEES **17 team members**

WHAT HAPPENED? The BOA received a page for SPOT activation near Red Rock Ranch for a 52-year-old female with a hip injury after an ATV accident. The woman was driving a rental machine and fell off but did not crash. Sheriff's deputies were first on scene, and worked with guides and local ranchers to transport the woman to Red Rock Ranch in a flatbed truck. A SAR team continued its response in case the first-responders could not successfully and safely move the patient. The patient made it to the ranch, and was transported to Jackson by an ambulance.

RESCUE **ATV Accident up Gros Ventre Road**
DATE **8/9/2019**
TIME **12:00 p.m.**
DURATION **3 hours**
ATTENDEES **16 team members**

WHAT HAPPENED? The BOA was notified that an ATV accident had occurred at Slide Lake near Atherton Creek Campground. The injured party had driven a rental ATV off a cliff approximately 200 feet. SAR responded and a rigging team set up a dual line to reach the patient using the Incident Command truck as an anchor. The patient was packed into a litter, and raised up to the road, transferred to Jackson Hole Fire/EMS and transported to St. John's Medical Center.

RESCUE **Mountain Bike Accident on Ferrin's Trail**
DATE **8/12/2019**
TIME **8:54 p.m.**
DURATION **2 hours, 51 minutes**
ATTENDEES **18 team members**

WHAT HAPPENED? The BOA received a page for a male with a serious ankle injury from a mountain bike accident near the top of the Ferrin's trail. The biker had a large laceration, a possible broken ankle, and could not get himself out. A first team responded up Ferrin's on mountain bikes, while two other teams drove a RZR side-by-side and a Chevy Tahoe up the Snow King road to the summit. They then walked down the trail with a wheeled litter and medical gear. They stabilized the patient, and transported him down the darkened trail in the wheeled litter to a waiting ambulance.

RESCUE **Injured Hiker near Camp Davis**
DATE **8/17/2019**
TIME **12:00 p.m.**
DURATION **4 hours**
ATTENDEES **32 team members**

WHAT HAPPENED? The BOA received a call about a 66-year-old female who had been injured while hiking behind Camp David, unable to walk with possible pulled muscles. SAR responded with an ATV and loaded her on the vehicle. The team transported her to her cabin where she stated she did not want to be transported to the hospital, and no further treatment was requested.

RESCUE **Bear Encounter up Fox Creek Trail**
DATE **8/19/2019**
TIME **8:18 p.m.**
DURATION **0 minutes**
ATTENDEES **9 team members**

WHAT HAPPENED? The BOA received a page that a hiker had encountered a bear about seven miles up Fox Creek. The hiker was carrying two cans of bear spray and had partially deployed one can in his pocket. He felt that he was physically able to hike out but was worried about traveling back toward the bear. The BOA advised him to hike out with bear spray in hand and make plenty of noise. The board also asked for a sheriff's deputy, if available, to meet the hiker at the trailhead to confirm he made it out. At about 8:54 p.m., the hiker called dispatch again stating he decided to spend the night out because he had camping gear with him. The case was closed out the next morning.

RESCUE **Overturned Boat on Snake River**
DATE **8/23/2019**
TIME **12:26 p.m.**
DURATION **34 minutes**
ATTENDEES **9 team members**

WHAT HAPPENED? The BOA received a page for an overturned drift boat on the Snake River south of the KOA. Dispatch reported that there was one patient with CPR in progress. The SAR team arrived at the hangar and hooked boat trailers to trucks. Shortly after, the BOA received updated information that Jackson Hole FIRE/EMS was on scene with the patient and that SAR resources were no longer needed. Unfortunately, the patient, a man in his 60s, did not survive.

RESCUE **Injured Mountain Biker on Jimmy's Mom Trail**
DATE **8/24/2019**
TIME **2 p.m.**
DURATION **1 hour, 40 minutes**
ATTENDEES **12 team members**

WHAT HAPPENED? The BOA received a page of an injured 51-year-old male mountain biker on Jimmy's Mom trail. The SAR team responded with the RZR side-by-side, wheeled litter, and medical gear. The RZR team drove up the Old Pass Road and found the patient with a sheriff's deputy already on scene. The



patient had lost consciousness a couple times when he stood up, but once SAR arrived, he could stand up without passing out. SAR transported the man down the Old Pass Road in the team's Chevy Tahoe back to an ambulance at the trailhead. Once at the ambulance, the patient refused medical transport and the deputy drove him home.

RESCUE **Fall from Horse at Darwin Ranch**
DATE **8/29/2019**
TIME **5:17 p.m.**
DURATION **1 hour, 13 minutes**
ATTENDEES **7 team members**

WHAT HAPPENED? The BOA received a page about a 19-year-old woman who'd sustained possible head and spine injuries after being bucked off a horse at the Darwin Ranch. The Board



to rescue a cliffed-out hiker. Patrol completed the rescue and no action was needed from SAR.

DURATION 50 minutes
ATTENDEES 3 team members

WHAT HAPPENED? A call came in regarding a potential lost hunter in the Turpin Meadows area. Two guides used an inReach beacon to report that one of their fellow guides was missing from an upper camp. After some back and forth between SAR, the ranch, and the guides, it was discovered that the missing guide was safe and sound at the upper camp.

determined that due to injuries and response time, it would be best to use a helicopter from either Sublette County or Air Idaho. Darwin Ranch had two EMTs and a backboard, and they moved the woman to a location that was better for the helicopter to land. At about 6:19 p.m., the Air Idaho heli landed and transported the patient to Eastern Idaho Regional Medical Center.

RESCUE Mountain Biker Injured on Jimmy's Mom Trail
DATE 9/2/2019
TIME 7:09 p.m.
DURATION 1 hour, 41 minutes
ATTENDEES 16 team members

WHAT HAPPENED? A 40-year-old male had been injured while riding his bike on the Jimmy's Mom trail. A team responded in the RZR side-by-side to the Phillips Bench parking lot, and drove down to meet the patient, who had a severe ankle injury. The patient was transferred to an ambulance.

RESCUE InReach SOS on Teton Pass
DATE 9/30/2019
TIME 12:31 p.m.
DURATION 7 minutes
ATTENDEES 5 team members

WHAT HAPPENED? The BOA received a page about an SOS activation from an InReach device on Teton Pass. After notifying the person's emergency contact, it was discovered that the device had been accidentally activated, and SAR stood down.

RESCUE Dislocated Hip up Little Granite Creek
DATE 8/31/2019
TIME 2:18 p.m.
DURATION 3 hours, 57 minutes
ATTENDEES 13 team members

WHAT HAPPENED? A call came in reporting a 67-year-old woman had a dislocated hip about a third of a mile up Little Granite Creek. Two SAR teams responded, one in the RZR side-by-side and another in the Chevy Tahoe. The team made contact with the patient and transported her down the trail to a waiting ambulance.

RESCUE Hamstring Injury up Teton Creek
DATE 9/5/2019
TIME 10:51 a.m.
DURATION 2 hours, 10 minutes
ATTENDEES 8 team members

WHAT HAPPENED? The BOA received a call regarding a potential rescue in Teton Creek, three miles west of Hurricane Pass, involving a woman with a pulled hamstring. The woman, however, initially refused help and continued hiking into Grand Teton National Park, which put the incident in the Park's jurisdiction. Later, the patient changed her mind and GTNP rangers picked her up in a helicopter and flew her out of the backcountry.



» SEPTEMBER

RESCUE Cliffed-out Hiker at JHMR
DATE 9/2/2019
TIME 2:00 p.m.
DURATION 1 hour, 52 minutes
ATTENDEES 0 team members

WHAT HAPPENED? The BOA received an informational page from Jackson Hole Mountain Resort that mountain patrol was working

RESCUE Powerline Trail Hip Injury
DATE 9/13/2019
TIME 11:48 a.m.
DURATION 5 hours, 12 minutes
ATTENDEES 19 team members

WHAT HAPPENED? A 33-year-old man was complaining of significant hip pain after crashing his bike on the Powerline trail jumps on Teton Pass. The RZR side-by-side responded with the wheeled litter and medical gear. The SAR team packaged the patient in a full-body vacuum immobilizer and wheeled him down the trail. At Crater Lake, the team transferred the patient to a waiting ambulance.

» OCTOBER

RESCUE Pendergraft Peak Back Injury
DATE 10/2/2019
TIME 5:08 p.m.
DURATION 2 hours, 52 minutes
ATTENDEES 26 team members

RESCUE Overdue Guide near Turpin Meadows
DATE 9/28/2019
TIME 10:55 a.m.

WHAT HAPPENED? SAR received a call to assist an injured hunter on Pendergraft Peak, 17 miles in the backcountry. The man, in his 60s, complained of dizziness and back pain, possibly from a previous injury. The man did not feel well enough to ride a horse out of the backcountry, so the BOA dispatched the SAR helicopter, which had arrived at the TCSAR hangar just the day before thanks to community-wide fundraising that brought the service in a month earlier than usual. Once on scene, SAR members loaded the patient and flew to Blackrock Ranger Station, where the man was transferred to an ambulance.

RESCUE **Seizure at Surprise Lake**
DATE **10/16/2019**
TIME **3:52 p.m.**
DURATION **2 hours, 8 minutes**
ATTENDEES **12 team members**

WHAT HAPPENED? A call came in from Grand Teton National Park requesting possible short-haul assistance for a man having a seizure near Surprise Lake at 9,570 feet. The man became injured after falling off his hammock when a tree broke. The SAR helicopter flew a recon to 9,500 feet and spotted the man waving his arms. After configuring the ship for short-haul, the helicopter team returned to pick up the patient and transferred him to a GTNP medic for transport to St. John's Medical Center.

RESCUE **Injured Hiker on Munger Mountain**
DATE **10/25/2019**
TIME **11:32 a.m.**
DURATION **2 hours, 28 minutes**
ATTENDEES **21 team members**

WHAT HAPPENED? The SAR team responded to a call from an injured hiker on Munger Mountain, who'd been hiking with her guide. SAR arrived and transported her to the trailhead via wheeled litter. The patient then self-transported to the hospital.

RESCUE **Injured Hunter up Cache Creek**
DATE **10/26/2019**
TIME **1:42 p.m.**
DURATION **6 hours, 18 minutes**
ATTENDEES **28 team members**



WHAT HAPPENED? The BOA received a page for a 60-year-old male with an injured back about eight miles up Cache Creek. The man had been hunting with his son when the man's horse took off. Though the man did not fall off his horse, he broke his pelvis on the saddle. He had a lot of pain in his lower back and groin, and could not walk or ride the horse. After making the 911 call, the son used the Backcountry SOS app to provide updated coordinates to dispatch. SAR responded with teams to go in with a RZR, ATVs, and wheeled litter. The helicopter was put on standby in case the weather improved. The ground team reached the party at just before 4:30 p.m. They called in the helicopter but poor weather prevented it from landing. The team continued ground support and prepared for transport. A weather window opened around 6 p.m. that allowed the helicopter to come back and pick up the patient. At about 6:20 p.m., the helicopter landed at the hangar and transferred the man to a waiting ambulance.

» NOVEMBER

RESCUE **Seizure on Ferrin's Trail**
DATE **11/17/2019**
TIME **3:20 p.m.**
DURATION **1 hour, 55 minutes**
ATTENDEES **20 team members**

WHAT HAPPENED? The SAR team received a page to respond to a rescue on the Ferrin's trail for a male with a seizure disorder. The team arrived at the hangar, gathered medical and transport gear, and packed it into the RZR and Chevy Tahoe. The teams drove to the top of Snow King and were able to locate the patient and his partner. SAR team members loaded the patient into the RZR, as he was able to sit up. They drove him to the base of Snow King and transferred him to a waiting ambulance.

RESCUE **Body Recovery up Adam's Canyon**
DATE **11/24/2019**
TIME **4:40 p.m.**
DURATION **3 hours, 5 minutes**
ATTENDEES **14 team members**

WHAT HAPPENED? The BOA received a page to provide assistance to TCSO for a body recovery up Adam's Canyon. A SAR team was able to recover the body and complete transport to the coroner's vehicle at the bottom of the canyon.



BackcountrySOS

Pete Nielsen (second from right) with his friends in Grand Teton National Park. Nielsen used the BackcountrySOS app on this trip to summon first-responders during a backcountry emergency.



Digital app can be downloaded to your smartphone and used to reach emergency dispatch even without a data service.



SOS Helps Save Lives in Teton County, Wyoming

In May 2019, when Minnesotan Pete Nielsen was planning a trip to the Tetons, he came across a free app that could be used during an emergency in the Jackson Hole backcountry. He didn't think he'd have to use it, but downloaded it anyway because you never know.

He ended up using the app, called BackcountrySOS, on August 9 in Grand Teton National Park and may well have saved someone's life. The same app saved another life in a different incident in October, when a hunter suffered severe injuries while riding a horse up Cache Creek.

The BackcountrySOS app, released in 2018 by the Teton County Search and Rescue Foundation, allows someone to use their mobile device to quickly and accurately provide their status and location to 911 dispatch in case of an emergency. Nielsen said he found the setup to be very easy—there are no logins or accounts to create—even for people like himself who, he admits, are not tech savvy. All you have to do is download the app on your smartphone and it's ready to use. Though the user has to have cellular service, the signal requires only the bare minimum. This allows the caller to use the app where there is no data service and where a signal is too weak for a voice call.

This is precisely what happened with Nielsen, who works for FedEx at the Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport. On Friday evening, August 9, he and six friends were at their campsite in upper Garnet Canyon when a woman came stumbling into camp. The woman, a 28-year-old from Mongolia who worked in the area, had fallen down a rocky snowfield. Nielsen said she was soaking wet, hypothermic, and could barely walk.

“Everyone tried to call 911 but we were too far up in the canyon and couldn't get service,” Nielsen said. “So we told a couple of hikers to call 911 once they got low enough. But I didn't know if she

was going to get through the night due to shock and hypothermia. They didn't have a sleeping bag and didn't even have a headlamp. The seven of us put her in our tent, put some dry clothes on her, and then stuffed her in a mummy bag."

That's when he decided to use the BackcountrySOS app, setting in motion a swift response from emergency crews.

"A half hour later, a helicopter came up. It was crazy, like something out of a movie," Nielsen said. "If we had waited for those people to hike down, the helicopter never would've gotten there because it was getting dark. And we didn't have enough sleeping bags for everyone."

Using coordinates generated by BackcountrySOS, a short-haul crew located the injured party via Teton Interagency Helicopter just seven minutes before the so-called "pumpkin hour," or the cutoff due to darkness. Responders were

able to successfully extricate the woman to get the medical help she required.

A similar scenario occurred up Cache Creek on October 26. A father and son were hunting together eight miles in the backcountry southeast of Jackson. When the father's horse spooked, the man sustained severe internal injuries that prevented him from walking or riding his horse. As a winter storm moved in, the son used BackcountrySOS to supply Search and Rescue with their exact positioning. A helicopter was dispatched and helped bring the emergency to a quick resolution. Given the cold and deteriorating weather conditions and the man's injuries, the incident could have had a much different outcome.

Nielsen said he was just happy that he and his friends were able to help, and that he had found and downloaded BackcountrySOS.

The app, of course, is intended to be an

emergency response tool, and not a substitute for proper planning and preparedness. It functions only in Teton County, Wyoming and Idaho, and does not generate any revenue for the Teton County Search and Rescue Foundation, a 501c3 nonprofit dedicated to serving northwest Wyoming residents and visitors with professional response during emergencies in the backcountry. But like other preparedness measures, the app is one more safeguard that can help positively influence the outcome of an emergency.



Be prepared.



backcountry **sos**

GET THE APP

Quickly & accurately provide your status & location to first responders in a backcountry emergency. Even with the best preparation, skills, and behavior, sometimes accidents happen. If they do, BackcountrySOS is a simple-to-use smartphone app that allows you to quickly get your status & location to emergency personnel.

Low Power - It will only use your phone's GPS for the brief period where it fetches your location.

High Contrast - The app is easy to read in bright sunlight & won't kill your vision at night.

No Set Up - You don't need to set up an account or login. If it's on your phone, the app is ready to use when you need it.

Data Efficient - The app works as long as you have enough signal to squeeze out a text message.

It will work in places where you can't get data access or make a voice call.

2019/2020 WISH LIST

Looking for a meaningful and significant way to support Teton County Search and Rescue?

Every year we highlight some of the larger expenses we will incur as we work to fulfill our mission, and those items form our Wish List. Contact a member of the TCSAR Foundation staff or board to discuss a gift that is in line with your interests.



Advanced Training

\$32,000

From snowmobile training to jet boat operations, the TCSAR volunteers go above and beyond their basic training to make sure they are as prepared as possible for events. These advanced trainings are available to all volunteers in good standing and give them an opportunity to up their skills in areas they'd like to focus on. Previous trainings include jet boat operations, advanced avalanche education, search management courses, snowmobile courses, and many more.

Heli-Yes Sponsor

\$30,000

Each year we look for one or two sponsors of our community Heli-Yes campaign, the second biggest fundraiser for TCSAR Foundation. These matching funds allow us to gain momentum to raise money for one of the most powerful tools we have available to us. This year, we added an additional month of helicopter service, meaning it's critical to find sponsors to encourage the community to help fund this essential piece of equipment.

Backcountry Safety Equipment

\$30,000

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

SAR Volunteer Leadership Training

\$25,000

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

TCSAR Foundation raises money to support SAR volunteers with equipment, personal support and advanced training. If you are interested in funding one of our "Wish List" items for 2020, please contact us.

First Responder Mental Health & Volunteer Wellness Initiative

\$20,000

Last year we began a mental health initiative to provide better and more efficient services for our team. We have partnered with first responders throughout the valley to make this initiative a priority for the next year with trainings, peer support groups, personal growth opportunities and other services.

Volunteer Recognition

\$15,000

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

Advanced Life Support Volunteer Training

\$5,500

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

Community Partnership Scholarships \$5,000

We partner with local organizations to create scholarship programs to assist those looking to further their education. From avalanche courses and swiftwater courses to advanced medical opportunities, these funds help community members stretch their skills to make backcountry adventuring that much better.

The Fine Line Podcast Underwriter \$5,000 (2 sponsorships)

The Fine Line is a podcast about adventure, risk and rescue in the backcountry. We are seeking an underwriter to help pay a portion of the production costs. In exchange for support, sponsors will be mentioned with every podcast, tagged on social media related to the podcast as well as logo and link on Backcountry Zero, Teton County Search and Rescue, and Soundcloud websites.

Utility Task Vehicle for Patient Transport \$5,000

This year we are upgrading to a four-person UTV to increase our patient care while transporting patients out of the backcountry. A standard UTV will be purchased and upgrades will be made to include SAR-specific components, including lights, radio, and litter attachments.

Training Scholarships for Individual Volunteers (10 scholarships) \$2,500/scholarship

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

WYSAW Sponsorship \$1,000 - \$7,500

WYSAW is a full-day educational workshop for snow and avalanche professionals and recreational backcountry users. The event includes a series of presentations and a panel discussion that provide attendees with an opportunity to engage in conversations about risk management, terrain evaluation, snowpack considerations and more while traveling in avalanche terrain. WYSAW is our largest single day educational event of the year with over 450 attendees.

What's In Your Pack Class Lead Sponsor \$500

Each season we offer classes to get novice to expert recreationalists the tools they need for a successful season. This is our longest standing class that sells out each time it is offered.

Backcountry Zero Business Advocate Sponsor \$500

Due to their direct daily contact with backcountry users, local businesses and organizations have the ability to improve the preparedness of those venturing into the backcountry and to increase community dialogue about backcountry risk and safety. Becoming a Backcountry Zero advocate continues to connect your business with the safety of your client.

DONATE:

tetoncountysar.org/donate
info@tetoncountysar.org
(307) 413-0604

TCSAR Foundation
PO Box 1063, Jackson, WY 83001



Our volunteers respond to calls 365/24/7

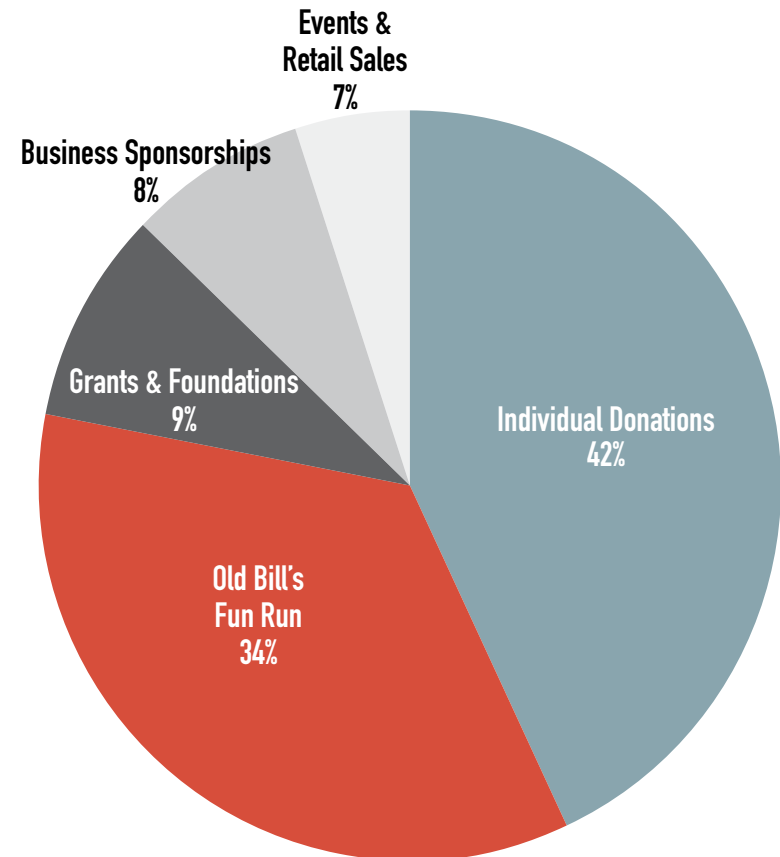
THANK YOU TO THESE LOCAL EMPLOYERS FOR THEIR FLEXIBILITY AND SUPPORT OF OUR VOLUNTEERS!

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- Chris Leigh, Attorney at Law
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- Emergency Medicine of Jackson Hole
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- Teton County Parks and Recreation
- Teton County Search and Rescue Foundation
- Teton County Sheriff's Office
- Teton Valley Ranch Camp
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- Teton Maple Exchange

TCSAR FOUNDATION MISSION

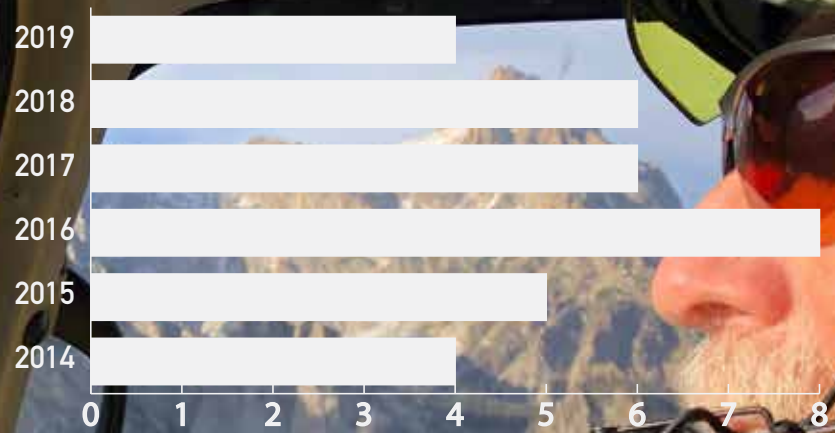
TCSAR Foundation saves lives through direct volunteer support, community education and advocacy.

HOW TCSAR FOUNDATION IS FUNDED

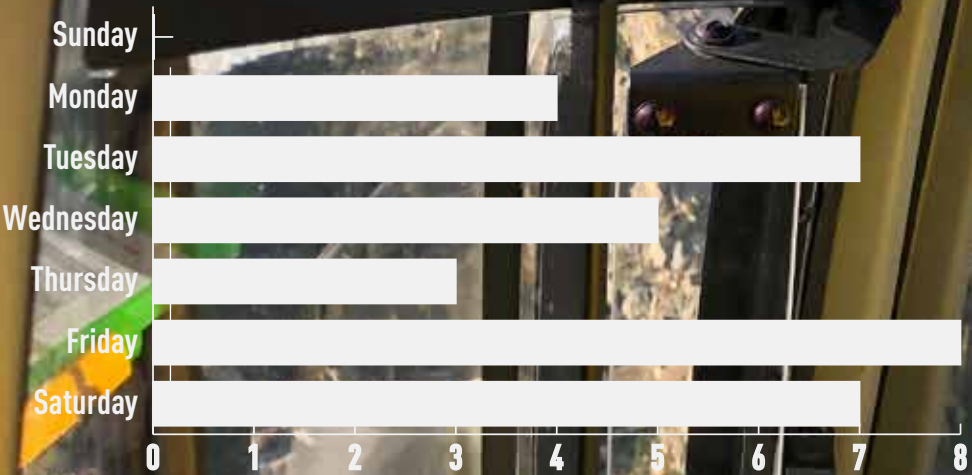




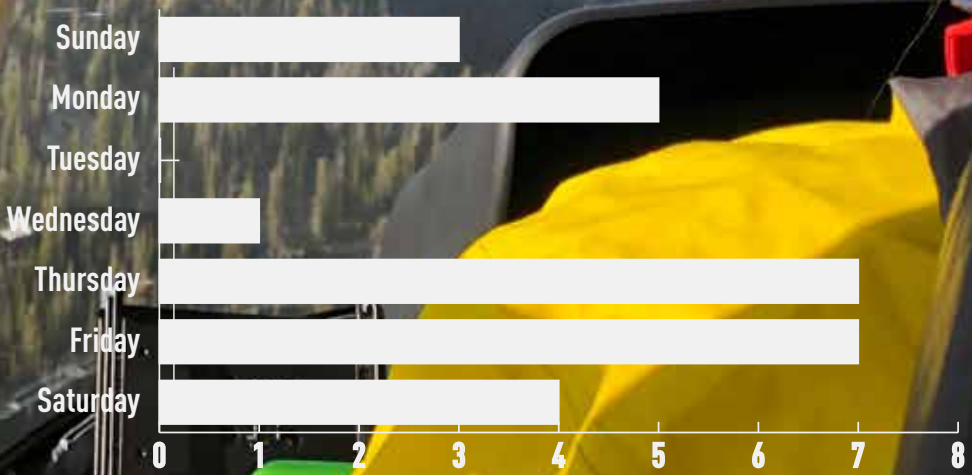
BACKCOUNTRY FATALITIES BY YEAR



INCIDENTS BY DAY OF WEEK WINTER 2018/2019



INCIDENTS BY DAY OF WEEK SUMMER 2019



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 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 • Mary Kate Buckley • Sandy Chapman • Karen & Jim Coleman • Kristine & Art Denton • Kurt Eggers • Greg Epstein & Mira Lee • Juliann Falcey • Jonathan & Annie Fenn • Gary Finkel • Jim Frank & The Raintree Foundation • Lee & Kathy Gardner • Gwen & Michael Garmon • Hanson Charitable Trust • Hirschfield Foundation • Bill & Lannie Hogle • Bland & Liza Hoke • Eddie & Marne Holstein • A.C. & Penny Hubbard • Ned Jannotta & Erika Pearsall • Morris & Annie Kinne • Jack & Janet Larimer • Marty & Toby Leith • Remy Levy & Cathy Kehr • John & Patricia Lummis • Kathy Lynch • Amanda & George Mahoney • Ani Maitin • Adrienne & John Mars • Sam & Lindsey McGee & Frederick Landscaping • Bill & Tally Mingst • Dina Mishev • Mac & Hillary Munro • The Newton Foundation • Richard & Pam Niner • Kevin & Shelley Olson • Andy & Danielle Parazette & Pica's Taqueria • Paul & Shirley Piper • Aaron Pruzan & Tamsen Kaylor • Merrill & Nanette Ritter • Birdie Rossetter • Neela Seenandan & Jason Hanold • Don & Dragon Sherman • Jack & Katherine Shook • Gary & Veronica Silberberg • Patrick Smith & JC Whitfield • Margot Snowdon & Yves Desgouttes • David & Peggy Sokol Family • Brandon Spackman • David & Susie Spackman • Richard Spencer • Jesse Stover • Alan & Frances Tessler • Barbara & Kenneth Thomas • Georgene Tozzi • Barbara & Stanford Trachtenberg • Colleen & Ethan Valenstein • Jill Veber • Christy Walton • Robert Werner & Jackson Temp Services, Inc. • Whitely & Nick Wheeler • Tom Windle & Pat Weber • Kelvin Wu & Elli Bemis • Brook & Jessica Yeomans • Sasha & Mike Zolik

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Jenny Lake Rangers	
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Local	Stinky Prints
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Mammut	

A big part of the TCSAR Foundation's mission is to advocate and educate backcountry users to increase their safety. As the volunteer team diligently trains to respond to accidents that are bound to occur, the Foundation strives to be a source of education for backcountry users to improve their preparedness and decision making. Here are some of the initiatives undertaken to achieve those goals in 2019.

TCSAR Foundation Events and Programs in 2019

JHMR BACKCOUNTRY SURVEYS

For the fifth season in a row, the Foundation completed hundreds of surveys at the JHMR backcountry gates. In this program, community volunteers stand at the resort's gates and ask questions of those exiting into the backcountry. We ask them questions such as: What's in your pack? Do you know where you are going? Are you wearing an avalanche beacon? So far, the Foundation has collected surveys from 800 people, which helps establish a baseline of backcountry habits, and build awareness among those who may not be prepared to ski uncontrolled terrain.



PHOTO ©BRADLY J. BONER/JH DAILY

from October 1-May 31 (aviation service during the summer is through a partnership with the Na-

HELI YES

Through private fundraising, TCSAR was able to expand helicopter service to the community by two whole months in 2019. The Heli-Yes campaign in April 2019 raised over \$60,000 to give TCSAR access to its own helicopter

tional Park Service and U.S. Forest Service). The success of the campaign underscores the importance of helicopter service in the increasingly busy offseasons, and helped save lives as a result.



WIYP CLASSES

One of the most effective hands-on programs offered by the Foundation are the What's in Your Pack classes. Providing backcountry safety tutorials to youth and adult groups, WIYP workshops bring in experts from NPS and TCSAR volunteers to discuss everything from packing essentials, how to build an improvised shelter,

how to effectively deploy bear spray (to a charging model bear, no less), how to build a fire in winter, how to address wounds and injuries, and how to read a map and compass in the digital age. The

classes sellout (though they are free for children), and further help the community engage with the Foundation and TCSAR volunteers.

PFD LOANER STATIONS

Most people who die on the Snake River are not wearing a life jacket. To mitigate this grim scenario, a pilot program from Summer 2019 attempted to increase PFD use on the Snake River. In collaboration with the Snake River Fund, Teton County Parks and Rec, and the TCSAR Foundation, loaner life-jackets were available at four popular boat ramps on the Snake south of Grand Teton National Park. Next summer, the initiative will also include easier drop-off stations for those who participate in the program.



THE FINE LINE PODCAST

One of the best ways to learn about consequences in the backcountry is to hear it through personal stories. Three years ago, the Foundation launched



the Fine Line podcast to share those stories by people who've lived to tell the tale. Twenty-five episodes later, it continues to bring TCSAR rescuers and their rescues into the studio to weave an interesting thread about

adventure and survival. One episode this summer recounted the horrific experience of two climbers who'd been repeatedly struck by lightning on the Grand Teton on July 21, 2010, in what would become the largest rescue effort ever undertaken on the iconic peak.

OLD BILL'S

In 2019, Old Bill's raised \$14.3 million for Jackson Hole nonprofits. Since its inception 23 years ago, the event has brought in \$173.7 million, an astonishing figure that has had an enormous positive influence on the local community. With more than a third of Foundation funding coming from Old Bill's Fun Run, TCSAR has been a proud participant since the event started, and the Foundation is honored to be part of such a generous community that supports so many wonderful nonprofits.



WYOMING SNOW & AVALANCHE WORKSHOP

The Wyoming Snow and Avalanche Workshop is a two-day event that invites experts from around North America to speak about the leading issues in winter backcountry safety. In October 2019, the Fifth Annual WYSAW sold out with 500 people in attendance. By hosting this accessible, engaging event, the Foundation helps regional backcountry users get their brains tuned up for the winter ahead.



THE RIGGING WALL

High-angle rescues require very specific skill-sets. And though rigging training—using a complicated process of ropes and belay devices—takes place in the mountains and on the river, the practice can also be achieved in closer manmade environs. In November 2019, a longtime goal was met when TCSAR built a rigging wall at the hangar. This 30-foot-tall by 20-foot-wide wall has 550 holds, five top rope sections, and numerous routes and pitches. "We were finally able to figure out a way to increase our skills and abilities in high-angle rescue, and we were able to come up with a design that fit into some space in our building," says team member Don Watkins. "It's going to be a game-changer for our team."



PHOTO ©CFJH





TCSAR Foundation
PO Box 1063
Jackson, WY 83001

