DEAR FRIENDS AND SUPPORTERS

The year 2021 has been defined by solving problems. It seems to me like we are all exhausted from the daily challenges of a global pandemic. The uncertainty in the world feels like it has channeled into a big year for Teton County Search & Rescue. As of December 1, we had 103 calls for service this year—just shy of the record for our team (105 set in 2017). Much of our increase in calls can be attributed to people flocking to our valley to find peace and relaxation in the mountains (and we agree, our valley is a great place for this). Most of our rescues this past year were helping folks out when their adventure went wrong. Things like bike wrecks, horse wrecks, and river wrecks were our most common rescues this summer. However, for our team, this past summer will be remembered as a time when folks went into the mountains but did not come back alive.

We played a significant role in finding Gabby Petito, a murder victim, as well as Bob Lowery and Jared Hembree, men who went into Jackson Hole backcountry but didn’t want to be found. These were horrible tragedies where members of our team confronted some of the worst realities of humanity. These were unbearably tough situations for the subjects’ families, and presented difficult challenges for the team members who responded. The team was able to use our knowledge of the Jackson backcountry and our search systems and techniques to find these folks and bring them home to their families. We know the community needs our service, but it is certainly work that takes a toll.

Asking volunteers to leave their families and everyday lives and immerse themselves into these intense and sad situations is a responsibility we don’t take lightly. It is not just the thousands of hours the team contributes to solve these problems, it is also the sleepless nights and deep reflection that follows. Mental health is something we are all talking about these days, and for good reason. Providing quality mental health resources for the members of our team following these traumatic events is something TCSAR takes seriously. Over the past few years, we have built a system that helps support our team when the going gets tough. The team is grateful for financial support from the community through the TCSAR Foundation and the Sheriff’s Office that helps keep us mentally strong.

These mental health challenges are something our whole community is facing. Our team knows it is important for us to be compassionate and understanding of the challenges folks are going through. I am proud that the members of TCSAR have risen to new challenges this past year. We do everything we can to make people’s worst day a little bit better.

Cody Lockhart
TCSAR Chief Advisor
Volunteer #84

FROM
DECEMBER 1, 2020 – NOVEMBER 30, 2021
TCSAR VOLUNTEERS SPENT
17,579 HOURS
ON SAR-RELATED ACTIVITIES

RESCUES = 6,195 HOURS
TRAINING = 10,842 HOURS
COMMUNITY EVENTS = 542 HOURS
INCIDENTS BY GENDER

WINTER 2020/21
- Male 66%
- Female 24%
- Unreported 8%

WINTER 10-YEAR AVG
- Male 69%
- Female 25%
- Unreported 6%

SUMMER 2021
- Male 56%
- Female 34%
- Unreported 10%

SUMMER 10-YEAR AVG
- Male 56%
- Female 45%
- Unreported 15%

INCIDENTS BY ACTIVITY

WINTER 2020/21
- Backcountry Skiing & Snowboarding 56%
- Snowmobiling 43%
- Horseback Riding 4%
- Driving 4%
- Rafting 3%
- Hiking 7%
- Snowboarding 7%
- Other 6%
- XC Skiing 1%

WINTER 10-YEAR AVG
- Backcountry Skiing & Snowboarding 56%
- Snowmobiling 37%
- Horseback Riding 4%
- Driving 4%
- Rafting 3%
- Hiking 7%
- Snowboarding 7%
- Other 6%
- XC Skiing 1%

SUMMER 2021
- Hiking 26%
- Missing Person 18%
- Other 16%
- ATV 1%
- Boating 13%
- Mountain Biking 11%
- Horseback Riding 16%
- Caving 1%
- Hunting 7%
- Other 10%
- Missing/Overdue 2%

SUMMER 10-YEAR AVG
- Hiking 35%
- ATV 11%
- Horseback Riding 13%
- Boating 11%
- Mountain Biking 14%
- Other 15%
- ATV 2%
- Caving 1%
- Hunting 7%
- Missing/Overdue 2%
How Rescues Roll:
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 backcountry, 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.

Summer 2021
RESCUE REVIEW

» JUNE

RESCUE Injured Horseback Rider near Hoback River
DATE 6/2/21
TIME 11:56 a.m.
DURATION 3 hours, 49 minutes
ATTENDEES 12 team members

WHAT HAPPENED? A woman fell off her horse while riding at the Spotted Horse Ranch in the Hoback River area. TCSAR responded with teams in the RZR, on foot with the wheeled litter, and electric mountain bikes. With the trail too narrow for the RZR, the team on mountain bikes arrived on scene first and began treating the patient. The volunteers packaged the patient in the wheeled litter and transported her to a waiting ambulance.

RESCUE Injured Hiker up Darby Canyon
DATE 6/2/21
TIME 4:07 p.m.
DURATION 2 hours, 8 minutes
ATTENDEES 11 team members

WHAT HAPPENED? A female was hiking near the Wind Cave when she fell and suffered a severe laceration on her inner thigh. Her companions and other hikers applied a tourniquet and carried her down the trail. One person ran down the trail to get cell service to make an emergency call. As TCSAR organized a response, the team encountered challenges due to heavy traffic on Hwy 22. A request was made to GTNP for an interagency helicopter short-haul operation, but the ship was at least 60 minutes out. Meanwhile, the patient was still bleeding but made it to the trailhead with the help of others. She was loaded into a vehicle and driven to higher medical care in Driggs, Idaho.

RESCUE Injured Biker on Lithium Trail
DATE 6/18/21
TIME 8:19 p.m.
DURATION 2 hours, 6 minutes
ATTENDEES 18 team members

WHAT HAPPENED? TCSAR volunteers received a call about a male mountain biker with potential serious injuries on the Lithium Trail, a steep downhill descent with multiple jumps and drops on Teton Pass. A strike team set out up the trail on electric mountain bikes from the Old Pass Road trailhead. At about 9:15 p.m., they made contact with the patient and assessed his injuries. The man was able to gingerly walk out on his own, with TCSAR members accompanying him and his girlfriend to the trailhead. Meanwhile, two TCSAR members continued up the trail to find the couple’s bikes, and hike-a-biked them out, using headlamps to see in the dark.

RESCUE Leg Injury on the Via Ferrata
DATE 6/25/21
TIME 9:10 a.m.
DURATION 3 hours, 5 minutes
ATTENDEES 22 team members

WHAT HAPPENED? TCSAR received a call about a commercial helicopter short-haul operation, but the ship was at least 60 minutes out. Meanwhile, the patient was still bleeding but made it to the trailhead with the help of others. She was loaded into a vehicle and driven to higher medical care in Driggs, Idaho.

RESCUE Missing Boater on Snake River
DATE 6/23/21
TIME 4:39 p.m.
DURATION 36 minutes
ATTENDEES 15 team members

WHAT HAPPENED? A woman ended up in the Snake River after slipping and falling on the South Park Landing. She was unable to make it back to the bank, and TCSAR initiated a swiftwater rescue. About 20 minutes later, a sheriff deputy was able to help the woman get back on land at the Swinging Bridge, and the team stood down.

RESCUE Pinned Boat in Snake River
DATE 6/21/21
TIME 4:33 p.m.
DURATION 3 hours, 19 minutes
ATTENDEES 20 team members

WHAT HAPPENED? TCSAR was alerted to a patient who injured their leg while on the Via Ferrata at Jackson Hole Mountain Resort. The resort had requested a possible short-haul with GTNP rangers, with TCSAR as backup. With heavy traffic preventing a hasty response from the TCSAR hangar on Hwy 22, a team on the Westbank was assembled while another team member rode an e-bike on the pathway to the Silson lot with rescue gear. With a TCSAR team member managing the LZ at Teton Village, GTNP was able to successfully short-haul the patient to higher medical care.

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.
raft with nine people caught on a strainer approximately four miles south of the Wilson bridge. Teams responded in two jet boats and by foot to help remove passengers from the boat and get them to safety. After removing three passengers, the boat became free and continued on downriver for the remainder of the trip. The teams monitored the raft before being alerted to another call.

**RESCUE**

**Missing Hiker on Table Mountain**

**DATE** 6/25/21

**TIME** 10:26 a.m.

**DURATION** 7 hours, 42 minutes

**ATTENDEES** 7 team members

**WHAT HAPPENED?** The Board of Advisors (BOA) got a call about a hiker who’d been separated from their party during a lightning and hail storm on Table Mountain. The person had not been seen for one hour. During the phone call, the missing person was located. The party was asked to let the BOA know when they had made it safely back to the trailhead, which they did at around 6 p.m.

**RESCUE**

**Injured Horseback Rider near Snake River Ranch**

**DATE** 6/25/21

**TIME** 11:29 a.m.

**DURATION** 25 minutes

**ATTENDEES** 22 team members

**WHAT HAPPENED?** As the team was managing two other incidents, they got a third call about a woman who’d been injured after falling off her horse. As the volunteers responded, Jackson Hole Fire/EMS was able to access the woman near the road and the team stood down.

**RESCUE**

**Overdue Hikers in Darby Canyon**

**DATE** 6/30/21

**TIME** 11:25 p.m.

**DURATION** 3 hours, 5 minutes

**ATTENDEES** 7 team members

**WHAT HAPPENED?** The Advisors received a call from dispatch that two young females were overdue from their hike in Darby Canyon. It is estimated that they started hiking at around 7:30 p.m. to the Wind Cave. It was unknown if they had headlamps, bear spray, or gear to spend the night. Family members drove to the trailhead and began hiking into the night using lights from their cell phones. Two TCSAR volunteers who live in Teton Valley drove to the trailhead to assist the family. At 1:19 a.m., a volunteer messaged IC via InReach device that the subjects had been located and were walking back to the trailhead.

**RESCUE**

**Overdue Hikers from the Wind Cave**

**DATE** 7/16/21

**TIME** 6:25 p.m.

**DURATION** 46 minutes

**ATTENDEES** 6 team members

**WHAT HAPPENED?** A man from Idaho Falls called to report his sister and her kids were three hours overdue from a hike to the Darby Canyon Wind Cave. A TCSAR member drove to the trailhead and found the missing party, who explained that the hike took longer than they anticipated.

**RESCUE**

**Missing Couple on Table Mountain**

**DATE** 7/16/21

**TIME** 11:01 p.m.

**DURATION** 1 Day

**ATTENDEES** 6 team members

**WHAT HAPPENED?** After summiting Table Mountain, a couple reportedly took a wrong turn on the way down and got lost. TCSAR dispatched four volunteers up two different trails on the mountain. At 1 a.m., the team members set out from the trailhead and found the hikers about an hour later. The hikers were then escorted back to the trailhead, and everyone went home.

**RESCUE**

**Lost Hiker on Sheep Mountain**

**DATE** 7/19/21

**TIME** 8:24 p.m.

**DURATION** 5 hours, 13 minutes

**ATTENDEES** 16 team members

**WHAT HAPPENED?** The BOA was alerted to a youth group of more than a dozen boys, ages 14 to 17, that had not returned from the Darby Canyon Wind Cave. A Teton County Sheriff Deputy was dispatched to the Darby Canyon trailhead where he found that all boys were safe and accounted for.

**RESCUE**

**Missing Youths in the Wind Cave**

**DATE** 7/11/21

**TIME** 6:44 p.m.

**DURATION** 1 hour, 9 minutes

**ATTENDEES** 7 team members

**WHAT HAPPENED?** The BOA was called to report a group of more than a dozen boys, ages 14 to 17, that had not returned from the Darby Canyon Wind Cave. A Teton County Sheriff Deputy was dispatched to the Darby Canyon trailhead where he found that all boys were safe and accounted for.
ACTIVE SAR INCIDENTS PER WINTER

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Season</th>
<th>Incidents</th>
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<td>Winter 2020-21</td>
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<tr>
<td>Winter 2019-20</td>
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<td>Winter 2017-18</td>
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<tr>
<td>Winter 2016-17</td>
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INCIDENTS BY MONTH 2020/2021

- December: 10
- January: 15
- February: 20
- March: 10
- April: 5
- May: 15
- June: 10
- July: 15
- August: 10
- September: 15
- October: 10
- November: 5

ACTIVE SAR INCIDENTS PER SUMMER

<table>
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<td>Summer 2018</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summer 2017</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

10-YEAR AVERAGE BY MONTH

- December: 10
- January: 15
- February: 20
- March: 10
- April: 5
- May: 15
- June: 10
- July: 15
- August: 10
- September: 15
- October: 10
- November: 5
**WHAT HAPPENED?** TCSAR was called about a hiker who was lost, without a headlamp, and a diminished phone battery on Sheep Mountain. Six TCSAR volunteers drove to the trailhead and began hiking up the mountain at 9:48 p.m. They found the hiker unharmed at about 11 p.m. and helped her hike out to the trailhead.

**RESCUE** Overturned Drift Boat in Snake River  
**DATE** 7/20/21  
**TIME** 10:30 a.m.  
**DURATION** 6 hours  
**ATTENDEES** 21 team members

**WHAT HAPPENED?** TCSAR received a page about a swiftwater incident on the Snake River about 3.5 miles upriver from the South Park Landing. A guided drift boat had flipped on an eddyline, dumping its three occupants into the river. Two patients were able to swim to shore, while the third, a woman in her 60s, was unresponsive. TCSAR and Jackson Hole Fire/EMS responded via jet boat and foot, with two ER physicians able to provide CPR to the patient. Unfortunately, the woman passed away at the scene.

**RESCUE** Sick Teenager on Teton Crest Trail  
**DATE** 7/23/21  
**TIME** 9:56 a.m.  
**DURATION** 1 hour, 4 minutes  
**ATTENDEES** 6 team members  
**BOARD CALL ONLY**

**WHAT HAPPENED?** The Board of Advisors were called about a 15-year-old boy with a pacemaker who was vomiting and had shortness of breath near Fox Creek Pass on the Teton Crest Trail. Due to the nature of the emergency, the advisors called Air Idaho, which was able to pick up the boy and fly him to Eastern Idaho Medical Center.

**RESCUE** Injured Horseback Rider at Heart 6  
**DATE** 7/23/21  
**TIME** 3:11 p.m.  
**DURATION** 3 hours, 49 minutes  
**ATTENDEES** 14 team members

**WHAT HAPPENED?** A man fell while dismounting his horse, twisting his leg and losing consciousness in the process. TCSAR responded with a wheeled litter and electric mountain bikes. The interagency helicopter was requested for a possible assist, but the ground teams were able to transport the man to a waiting ambulance.

**RESCUE** Overdue Kayaker on Snake River  
**DATE** 7/24/21  
**TIME** 9:22 p.m.  
**DURATION** 26 minutes  
**ATTENDEES** 5 team members  
**BOARD CALL ONLY**

**WHAT HAPPENED?** The Board of Advisors received a call about an 18-year-old male reported three hours overdue while paddling from Jackson Lake to Palisades Reservoir. It turned out that he was fine but that his phone had died.

**RESCUE** Unresponsive Child in Alaska Basin  
**DATE** 7/26/21  
**TIME** 2 p.m.  
**DURATION** 38 minutes  
**ATTENDEES** 16 team members

**WHAT HAPPENED?** Advisors were paged about a 7-year-old girl who was not breathing in her tent and had been given CPR in Alaska Basin. With urgency, the board called Air Idaho, which was able to land near the patient and transport her to Eastern Idaho Medical Center.

**RESCUE** ATV Accident at Red Rock Ranch  
**DATE** 7/27/21  
**TIME** 12:36 p.m.  
**DURATION** 9 minutes  
**ATTENDEES** 5 team members  
**BOARD PAGE ONLY**

**WHAT HAPPENED?** TCSAR was alerted to a mountain biker who was injured on the Fuzzy Bunny Trail on Teton Pass. The man was reported to be in and out of consciousness. Volunteers responded and found the man walking around. They assessed the patient’s injuries and transferred him to a waiting ambulance.

**RESCUE** Injured Mountain Biker on Fuzzy Bunny Trail  
**DATE** 7/31/21  
**TIME** 2 p.m.  
**DURATION** 38 minutes  
**ATTENDEES** 16 team members

**WHAT HAPPENED?** The BOA received a notice about an SOS activation near Turpin Meadows in the Buffalo Valley. The coordinates were moving around, and it was determined to be a false activation.

**RESCUE** SOS Activation  
**DATE** 8/1/21  
**TIME** 12:36 p.m.  
**DURATION** 9 minutes  
**ATTENDEES** 5 team members  
**BOARD PAGE ONLY**

**WHAT HAPPENED?** The BOA received a notice about an SOS activation near Turpin Meadows in the Buffalo Valley. The coordinates were moving around, and it was determined to be a false activation.

www.tetoncountysar.org
RESCUE  
**Injured Mountain Biker on Fuzzy Bunny Trail**

**DATE** 8/1/21  
**TIME** 3:49 p.m.  
**DURATION** 1 hour, 41 minutes  
**ATTENDEES** 15 team members  

**WHAT HAPPENED?** A mountain biker in his mid 20s crashed on the Fuzzy Bunny Trail on Teton Pass. TCSAR volunteers responded in the RZR, and packaged the patient for a waiting ambulance at the base of the pass. One volunteer stayed behind to bring the patient’s bike down the rest of the trail.

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RESCUE  
**Lost Hikers on Snow King**

**DATE** 8/3/21  
**TIME** 3:34 p.m.  
**DURATION** 2 hours, 36 minutes  
**ATTENDEES** 20 team members  

**WHAT HAPPENED?** TCSAR were called to help a couple in their 70s who’d become lost in the Snow King area. The couple had started up from Cache Creek to the Ferrin’s Trail before taking a game trail they thought would lead to the summit. The trail ended and then got very steep. Several TCSAR members responded directly to Snow King, including the RZR. The couple was found by a team member on foot and then escorted down the mountain.

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RESCUE  
**Overdue Hiker in Moose Creek**

**DATE** 8/1/21  
**TIME** 9:15 p.m.  
**DURATION** 14 minutes  
**ATTENDEES** 5 team members  

**WHAT HAPPENED?** The BOA received a call about a young woman who was overdue on a hike up Moose Creek. A sheriff deputy went to the trailhead to see if the person’s car was still there. During that effort, the woman called dispatch to say she was safe in Driggs.

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RESCUE  
**Potential Assistance Needed in Pendergraft Meadows**

**DATE** 8/5/21  
**TIME** 4:18 p.m.  
**DURATION** 37 minutes  
**ATTENDEES** 8 team members  

**BOARD CALL ONLY**

**WHAT HAPPENED?** A group called to report that they’d encountered a lone horseback rider who appeared to be in need of help about 15 miles north of Brooks Lake Lodge. They gave the subject food because they thought he didn’t look well. Mapping revealed that the person was in Fremont County, and calls were made to that SAR team to see if they wanted to take the mission. Eventually, it was determined that the person was not requesting assistance, and the response stood down.

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RESCUE  
**Injured Ranger at Hawks Rest**

**DATE** 8/3/21  
**TIME** 3:19 a.m.  
**DURATION** 7 hours, 41 minutes  
**ATTENDEES** 8 team members  

**WHAT HAPPENED?** The BOA received a pre-dawn phone call from dispatch about a Forest Service backcountry ranger who became injured while stationed in the remote Thoroughfare region. Several days earlier, the ranger had been struck by a falling tree and was experiencing severe pain from the incident. The board decided to wait until daylight and dispatch two TCSAR members in the interagency helicopter to the Hawks Rest patrol cabin. The ranger had a horse, three mules and a dog. The horse and mules were left at Hawks Rest while the patient and dog were transported by helicopter to Black Rock Ranger Station. FS personnel said they would take care of the horse and mules.

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RESCUE  
**Horse Accident on Burro Hill**

**DATE** 8/6/21  
**TIME** 4:29 p.m.  
**DURATION** 4 hours, 1 minute  
**ATTENDEES** 19 team members  

**WHAT HAPPENED?** TCSAR received a call about a woman who became injured after she fell off her horse in the Buffalo Valley. The initial report said she was not far from the road but on the other side of the Buffalo Fork, possibly necessitating swiftwater gear for teams to cross the river. SAR volunteers responded with the RZR and wheeled litter and were able to reach the patient without having to cross the river. They packaged her in a vacuum splint and used the wheeled litter to transport her to a waiting ambulance.
sheriff deputies, and the interagency helicopter. As the teams prepared to enter the field, the missing subjects arrived at the trailhead, and the operation stood down.

**RESCUE** Allergic Reaction on the Snake River  
**DATE** 8/23/21  
**TIME** 1:28 p.m.  
**DURATION** 28 minutes  
**ATTENDEES** 14 team members

**WHAT HAPPENED?** A woman on a commercial float trip was stung by a bee and developed an allergic reaction. TCSAR sent a team in a truck down the levee to pick her up and drive her back to her family at the Wilson boat ramp.

**RESCUE** Overturned Drift Boat in Snake River  
**DATE** 8/25/21  
**TIME** 4:09 p.m.  
**DURATION** 27 minutes  
**ATTENDEES** 8 team members

**WHAT HAPPENED?** A drift boat carrying three people flipped over on the Snake River near the John Dodge subdivision. Sheriff deputies responded and reported that all three subjects had been helped by other floaters, and the team stood down.

**RESCUE** Lost Family at JHMR  
**DATE** 8/25/21  
**TIME** 10:27 p.m.  
**DURATION** 0 minutes  
**ATTENDEES** 9 team members

**WHAT HAPPENED?** The BOA received a call about a couple wanting assistance while hiking down a service road at Jackson Hole Mountain Resort. The party was cold, out of food and water, and didn’t have headlamps. The Advisors worked with the resort to have someone go help them, and the team stood down.

**RESCUE** Lost Hiker in the Gros Ventre  
**DATE** 8/29/21  
**TIME** 1:06 p.m.  
**DURATION** 6 hours, 54 minutes

**WHAT HAPPENED?** The hiker was able to hike downhill but turned right when he hit the creek and ended up at Henry’s Road. A TCSAR volunteer picked him up in a truck and drove him back to town.

**RESCUE** Injured Hiker up Moose Creek  
**DATE** 9/3/21  
**TIME** 1:18 p.m.  
**DURATION** 11 minutes  
**ATTENDEES** 6 team members

**WHAT HAPPENED?** A woman in her 70s injured her hip while hiking up Moose Creek on the west side of the Tetons. A member of TCSAR Idaho was on scene with an ambulance already at the trailhead, but was unable to get the patient down the trail. With the Idaho SAR team nearby, the call was made to request they use their wheeled litter to transport the patient to the trailhead.

**RESCUE** ATV Accident in Jackpine  
**DATE** 9/4/21  
**TIME** 2:08 p.m.  
**DURATION** 42 minutes  
**ATTENDEES** 9 team members

**WHAT HAPPENED?** A young man was involved in an ATV accident with a truck in the Jackpine area of the Wyoming/Idaho border. The reporting party had to drive to another road to make the emergency call, and said the patient wasn’t breathing after the crash caused the ATV to land on top of him. Deputies from Fremont County, Idaho, dispatched to the scene as well as Air Idaho. TCSAR sent a hasty team but stood down when it was reported that the man had unfortunately passed away.

**RESCUE** Cold Hikers at JHMR  
**DATE** 9/12/21  
**TIME** 8:44 a.m.  
**DURATION** 0 minutes  
**ATTENDEES** 8 team members

**WHAT HAPPENED?** The BOA was called about a family of five lost on the mountain bike trail known as Deepest, Darkest at JHMR. Calls were made to mountain dispatch and security, but all had gone home for the night. TCSAR was able to pick up the patient and fly them to higher medical care.

**RESCUE** Search for Missing Person at Spread Creek, OP1  
**DATE** 9/18/21  
**TIME** 6:45 a.m.  
**DURATION** 11 hours, 15 minutes  
**ATTENDEES** 26 team members

**WHAT HAPPENED?** TCSAR was called to assist in the search for a 22-year-old female from Florida who had been reported missing by her parents on September 11. The team joined law enforcement efforts by Teton County Sheriff’s Office, FBI, and Grand Teton National Park to search the Spread Creek dispersed camping area. Teams scoured the area without success, completing the day by 6 p.m. with plans to return the following day.
**Injured Mountain Biker on Teton Pass**

- **DATE**: 9/18/21
- **TIME**: 1 p.m.
- **DURATION**: 1 hour, 33 minutes
- **ATTENDEES**: 21 team members

**What Happened?** A male in his mid-20s became injured after crashing on his mountain bike on the Parallel Trail on Teton Pass. TCSAR sent a hasty team into the field. When SAR members arrived, the patient was able to walk to the trailhead, and friends drove him to receive medical treatment.

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**Search for Missing Person near Teton Pass**

- **DATE**: 9/28/21
- **TIME**: 8 a.m.
- **DURATION**: 8 hours, 30 minutes
- **ATTENDEES**: 20 team members

**What Happened?** TCSAR received a request from the Teton County Sheriff’s Office to search for a missing person believed to be in the Black Canyon area of Teton Pass. Three dog teams joined the effort from the base of the Old Pass Road. At 1 p.m., a dog team found the remains of a Texas man who hadn’t been seen since August 20. TCSAR then exciricated the body from a steep, timbered slope.

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**Injured Hiker on Phillip’s Ridge**

- **DATE**: 9/26/21
- **TIME**: 4:13 p.m.
- **DURATION**: 2 hours, 17 minutes
- **ATTENDEES**: 9 team members

**What Happened?** A woman in her 70s injured her knee while hiking on Phillip’s Ridge. TCSAR dispatched teams in the RZR and on foot. After navigating various obstacles, the team was able to transport the woman down to her vehicle, where she decided to drive herself to further care.

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**Search for Missing Person at Spread Creek, OP2**

- **DATE**: 9/19/21
- **TIME**: 6:45 a.m.
- **DURATION**: 10 hours, 30 minutes
- **ATTENDEES**: 22 team members

**What Happened?** TCSAR joined an interagency effort to continue the search for the missing Florida woman in the Spread Creek area. At about noon, a horse team located remains that were consistent with the woman’s description. The body was found in an area just east of the Grand Teton National Park boundary, and the case was turned over to law enforcement.

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**Overdue Hikers from the Wind Cave**

- **DATE**: 10/12/21
- **TIME**: 3:10 a.m.
- **DURATION**: 1 hour, 17 minutes
- **ATTENDEES**: 6 team members

**What Happened?** A father called to report that his son and roommate were overdue after hiking to the Darby Wind Cave. The two were supposed to be out by midnight, but had not checked in as of 1:30 a.m. The advisors decided to wait till 7 a.m. to see if the pair had made it out before paging the entire team. At 4:30 a.m., the hikers called to report they had made it out safely.

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**Hunter in Distress at Hawks Rest**

- **DATE**: 10/14/21
- **TIME**: 12:06 p.m.
- **DURATION**: 4 hours, 24 minutes
- **ATTENDEES**: 5 team members

**What Happened?** TCSAR received a call about a male hunter in distress at Hawks Rest in the Thoroughfare region. Given the man’s previous health history, the outfitters were requesting help in getting the patient out. Using the interagency helicopter, two SAR members picked up the patient and flew him to higher medical care.

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**Missing and Injured on Heck of a Hill**

- **DATE**: 10/20/21
- **TIME**: 9:36 a.m.
- **DURATION**: 2 hours, 54 minutes
- **ATTENDEES**: 23 team members

**What Happened?** A man in his 40s was reported missing after failing to come home the previous night after clearing trees on a property at Heck of a Hill. Friends began searching the area at 7 a.m., but couldn’t locate the man. A few hours later, TCSAR dispatched a team to search the area and found him at a nearby residence with head injuries. The man was transferred to higher medical care.

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**GTNP Search for Missing Person, OP1**

- **DATE**: 10/21/21
- **TIME**: 10:33 a.m.

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**Injured Hunter at Wolverine Creek**

- **DATE**: 10/10/21
- **TIME**: 6:48 p.m.
- **DURATION**: 2 hours, 39 minutes
- **ATTENDEES**: 8 team members

**What Happened?** TCSAR got a call about a man in his 70s who was injured on a guided hunting trip about 22 miles from the Pacific Creek trailhead. The patient was about 30 minutes from his hunting camp and refused to move to avoid further injury. Given the remoteness and seriousness of injury, TCSAR requested an air response from Air Idaho. The guides and patient were able to create an LZ near the site, and Air Idaho handled the call.

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**Overdue Hikers from the Wind Cave**

- **DATE**: 10/12/21
- **TIME**: 3:10 a.m.
- **DURATION**: 1 hour, 17 minutes
- **ATTENDEES**: 6 team members

**What Happened?** A father called to report that his son and roommate were overdue after hiking to the Darby Wind Cave. The two were supposed to be out by midnight, but had not checked in as of 1:30 a.m. The advisors decided to wait till 7 a.m. to see if the pair had made it out before paging the entire team. At 4:30 a.m., the hikers called to report they had made it out safely.

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**Hunter in Distress at Hawks Rest**

- **DATE**: 10/14/21
- **TIME**: 12:06 p.m.
- **DURATION**: 4 hours, 24 minutes
- **ATTENDEES**: 5 team members

**What Happened?** TCSAR received a call about a male hunter in distress at Hawks Rest in the Thoroughfare region. Given the man’s previous health history, the outfitters were requesting help in getting the patient out. Using the interagency helicopter, two SAR members picked up the patient and flew him to higher medical care.

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**Missing and Injured on Heck of a Hill**

- **DATE**: 10/20/21
- **TIME**: 9:36 a.m.
- **DURATION**: 2 hours, 54 minutes
- **ATTENDEES**: 23 team members

**What Happened?** A man in his 40s was reported missing after failing to come home the previous night after clearing trees on a property at Heck of a Hill. Friends began searching the area at 7 a.m., but couldn’t locate the man. A few hours later, TCSAR dispatched a team to search the area and found him at a nearby residence with head injuries. The man was transferred to higher medical care.

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**GTNP Search for Missing Person, OP1**

- **DATE**: 10/21/21
- **TIME**: 10:33 a.m.
DURATION 1 hour, 26 minutes
ATTENDEES 8 team members
BOARD CALL ONLY

WHAT HAPPENED? The Board of Advisors received a request from Grand Teton National Park to use a drone in search of a missing person. The man had stopped at Fireside Lodge in Buffalo Valley and was observed with blood on his arm and a tourniquet. He reportedly purchased alcohol and drove away, parking his vehicle at Game Warden Point. Due to the nature of the incident, law enforcement took the lead and used a drone for an aerial search but could not locate him.

RESCUE GTNP Search for Missing Person, OP2
DATE 10/22/21
TIME 12:49 p.m.
DURATION 2 hours, 56 minutes
ATTENDEES 18 team members

WHAT HAPPENED? Grand Teton National Park requested helicopter assistance from TCSAR to continue the search for the missing person in Buffalo Valley. Subject was a 26-year-old man from Texas who was last seen on October 21. Without locating the man, teams exited the field at 4 p.m.

RESCUE Disoriented Hiker on Josie’s Ridge
DATE 10/22/21
TIME 12:49 p.m.
DURATION 1 hour, 41 minutes
ATTENDEES 18 team members

WHAT HAPPENED? TCSAR received a call about a man in his early 70s who was found disoriented and on the ground about a quarter mile up Josie’s Ridge. A hasty team went up the trail with the wheeled litter. After assessing the patient, the team walked with him down the trail to a waiting ambulance.

RESCUE GTNP Search for Missing Person, OP3
DATE 10/23/21
TIME 7:30 a.m.
DURATION 9 hours, 30 minutes
ATTENDEES 27 team members

WHAT HAPPENED? On the third day of searching for the missing Texas man, GTNP again took the lead. The search consisted of horse and ground teams, but the subject could not be found.

RESCUE GTNP Search for Missing Person, OP4
DATE 10/24/21
TIME 7:30 a.m.
DURATION 4 hours, 30 minutes
ATTENDEES 10 team members

WHAT HAPPENED? On the fourth day of searching for the missing Texas man, TCSAR Idaho joined TCSAR in the effort, with GTNP rangers having jurisdiction. The search included teams on foot, horses, dogs, Civil Air Patrol, and a helicopter. The subject was found deceased on a steep hillside on Uhl Hill.

RESCUE Knee Injury at Emily’s Pond
DATE 11/8/21
TIME 9:26 a.m.
DURATION 18 minutes
ATTENDEES 5 team members
BOARD CALL ONLY

WHAT HAPPENED? A woman walking on Emily’s Pond fell off the side of the levee and called the non-emergency dispatch number. She asked if someone could come unlock the gate so her husband could drive down the levee and pick her up. She was told that wasn’t possible. An ambulance with Jackson Hole Fire/EMS dispatched and resolved the situation.

RESCUE Red Top Meadows Assist
DATE 11/10/21
TIME 10:24 p.m.
DURATION 3 hours, 36 minutes
ATTENDEES 15 team members

WHAT HAPPENED? TCSAR was called to help law enforcement track down a juvenile who had run away from Red Top Meadows youth facility. Given that the person was not prepared to spend the night outdoors, the team responded with three hasty teams. At about 1:30 a.m., the juvenile was found at a house about 6.5 miles from Red Top.

RESCUE Seizure in South Park
DATE 11/12/21

WHAT HAPPENED? TCSAR was paged to provide possible assistance to access and extricate a patient who was suffering a seizure near the dike in the South Park Feed Grounds. An ambulance was able to locate and transport the patient without assistance from SAR, and the call stood down.

RESCUE Downed Aircraft Investigation
DATE 11/20/21
TIME 6:34 p.m.
DURATION 1 day
ATTENDEES 19 team members

WHAT HAPPENED? On the evening of November 11, dispatch received a call from a hunter who found a downed aircraft on Crystal Butte. The team was called to the hangar the next morning to assemble a search effort. Two hasty teams were sent into the field with one team staged at the hangar if additional resources were needed. Upon reaching the crash site, teams searched the area and found no one in the cockpit. The tail number was uncovered and called in to IC. After checking with the FAA, it was determined that the crash occurred in heavy smoke, killing its two occupants, during the Yellowstone fires in the summer of 1988.
For Teton County Search & Rescue, the second half of 2021 will likely be remembered for the near record number of calls for service and the numerous missing person searches. In those searches, TCSAR volunteers worked closely with several agencies, including the FBI, Grand Teton National Park, Teton County Sheriff's Office, U.S. Forest Service, Teton County Idaho Search and Rescue, and the Civil Air Patrol. The missions underscored the important relationship between TCSAR's backcountry skills and law enforcement's investigative expertise.

Elsewhere, the team saw several days with simultaneous callouts, requiring different sets of volunteers to respond to different scenarios in different locations of the valley. Callouts on the west side of the Tetons continued to increase while heavy traffic congestion in Jackson Hole at times hampered volunteers’ ability to respond quickly, especially during the afternoon commute.

To help the community better understand these successes and challenges, we asked Teton County Sheriff Matt Carr to share his perspective on the past six months.

**These big searches have always haunted** Search & Rescue folks. They’re the ones that take the most money and the most manpower. I think, over the years, technology has lent itself to cut down those searches, not only the cost, but the time behind them has whittled away at these incredibly difficult tasks.

**The planning of a search has to come from a scientific understanding.** Where are we going to search? How are we going to do it? How much time and how many resources? There are a lot of people on this Search & Rescue team that have invested that time to undertake that training to understand how to conduct a search. From a law enforcement perspective, that’s not something we do on a regular basis. So it’s critical to have that piece on the Search & Rescue team.

The structure to be successful and more efficient is set up within Incident Command. That way, we know that all these agencies are working in partnership for a common goal. Even at the national level, efforts can be siloed and one group won’t know what the other group is doing. It almost becomes, well, not combative, but it’s a less efficient way of doing things. The SAR members that we have are used to working under the system that brings in multiple agencies, and they make sure we’re communicating. The volunteers are also very good at using technology to our advantage, and we really saw that this summer.

**No matter where your search starts,** or what the circumstances are, it’s so important to have that investigative piece. We’ve learned that time and time again, throughout the last decade of the big searches that we’ve had here in Teton County, whether it’s lost hikers, campers, or somebody that we believe is deceased, it’s critical that communication is happening between the investigative agency and the actual searchers.

You’ve got to have a well trained team of experienced searchers that know how to interpret the investigative data, put it into a plan, and then execute the plan. Otherwise, you’re just chasing your tail.

This summer, one of the great lessons, for me, was how the feds embraced the expertise of our team. They came here and said, ‘Look, this is not our cup of tea. This is not what we know how to do. We will bring all sorts of resources to bear, but we’ve got to leave it to the people that have the boots on the ground, that know how to execute a search and how to do it and make it work.’

The ‘new normal’ is an interesting term. This SAR team can handle a lot of what you might call our bread and butter cases—going into the backcountry and successfully transporting them to a higher level of care. Such missions don’t take a lot of time or re-
quire a whole lot of resources. But what we started to see in the last couple years is more complex missions, including these searches, that place a much greater demand upon our personnel and our infrastructure.

One of the challenges with Search & Rescue is getting people to the location where they need to be to perform the rescue. We’re fortunate enough to have a helicopter for eight months out of the year that enables us to put people in remote locations in a timely manner. But as people start to spread out, or go deeper into the backcountry, or if weather becomes a concern, we can’t always make it happen.

A number of times this summer, we reached out to Teton County Idaho Search and Rescue just because we’re literally sitting in traffic while somebody is in need of our services (on the west side of the Tetons). We’ve established a fairly decent rescue cache in Alta, but with any future expansions of Grand Targhee, it’s going to be inadequate. But again, even a lot of the Teton County Idaho SAR members are coming over to Jackson for work during the day. So how do you manage that? I’m not quite sure I have the answers but we’re just trying to go into it with our eyes wide open and say, Look, where can we strategically place not only our gear but our people to be able to respond to these needs?
TCSAR Foundation raises money to support SAR volunteers with equipment, personal wellness and advanced training. Our wish list highlights some of our bigger needs for 2022 and we are grateful for full or partial funding for any of these items. For a detailed list of these items, visit www.TetonCountySAR.org/wishlist.

**Helicopter Support**
TCSAR’s HELI program continues to grow every year, saving more lives and delivering more people to definitive care as quickly as possible. Funding this service is essential to our team and community.

**GROUND TRAINING & FLIGHT SCHOOL**
$7,500

**PARTNERSHIP TRAINING**
$17,000
Partnership training with GTNP Jenny Lake Rangers, Jackson Hole Mountain Resort, Togwotee Mountain Lodge, and Grand Targhee Ski and Summer Resort.

**HELI-YES CAMPAIGN MATCH**
$35,000
Each spring we run a campaign with our grassroots supporters to help TCSO fund TCSAR’s helicopter program. A matching gift helps inspire this community to come together to meet the larger goal of maintaining uninterrupted emergency helicopter service throughout the year.

**Support a New Member**

**NEW TEAM MEMBER**
$20,000 per volunteer
In 2021, TCSAR brought on 10 new volunteers, an investment that includes outfitting the volunteer with essential rescue gear and equipment, wellness and meals, as well as paying for a rigorous schedule of trainings.

**Advanced Training**

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

**INDIVIDUAL ADVANCED TRAINING**
$10,000

**SWIFTWATER RECERTIFICATION**
$16,000 (whole team)

**RIGGING TRAINING**
$6,000 (whole team)

**ADVANCED AVALANCHE EDUCATION**
$3,000 (7 volunteers)

**MEALS AND SNACKS**
$2,200
Covers one month of training meals and rescue snacks for volunteers.

**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 Jackson Hole backcountry.

**MEETING A NEW MEMBER**

**NEW TEAM MEMBER**
$20,000 per volunteer

**RIGGING TRAINING**
$6,000 (whole team)

**MEALS AND SNACKS**
$2,200
Covers one month of training meals and rescue snacks for volunteers.

**MENTAL HEALTH**
$15,000
Anonymous trauma therapy sessions and annual peer support and resilience training with Laura McGladrey for all Teton County first-responder groups.

**WELLNESS STIPENDS**
$20,000
Wellness Stipends for TCSAR volunteers.

**Equipment**

**SNOWMOBILE**
$13,000

**Fine Line Podcast**

**SPONSOR**
$2,500 - $5,000
Sponsorships can be tailored to your needs and budget, and is one of the most effective ways to reach your customers in an engaging way.

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

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With your mobile device, quickly and accurately provide your location and status to first responders in a backcountry emergency. It's free, with no account setup required.
In the second half of 2021, TCSAR Foundation reached well over 1,000 people through programming and outreach of Backcountry Zero. With the pandemic continuing to influence our decisions, the Foundation offered in-person programming in open air spaces, running more trainings for smaller groups. In mid-June, Backcountry Zero hosted three What’s in Your Pack workshops aimed at adults, families, and kids. Topics ranged from hands-on practice stopping major bleeds to an in-depth look at satellite communication devices. Families got to practice building emergency shelters and the youth group learned essential knot-tying and splinting skills. Grand Teton National Park sent wildlife specialists to facilitate bear spray practice with a simulated charging grizzly.

In July Backcountry Zero partnered with Mountain Bike the Tetons to offer two workshops, hosted at TCSAR, for the mountain bike community. One of these sessions was geared toward women. Both groups learned essential first aid, how to fix a flat, how to repair a broken chain, and what systems pros use for carrying gear while cycling. The Foundation partnered with Jackson Hole Babe Force and Snake River Fund to offer a Women’s Swiftwater Rescue course, with available scholarships. Additionally, a What’s in Your Pack workshop was interpreted for the Spanish-speaking community thanks to a partnership with Camina Conmigo.

Backcountry Zero also connected with locals and visitors through booths at the Jackson Hole Farmers Market and People’s Market. We were at Miller Park most weeks offering fun activities for the kids that participated in the Sprouts Mobile Lunch program. Backcountry Zero also partnered with local outdoor leaders, speaking with the instructors of organizations such as Coombs Outdoors and City Kids at their pre-season staff trainings.

In October, the 7th Annual Wyoming Snow & Avalanche Workshop ran as a hybrid event with limited in-person attendance and virtual viewing. Featuring some of the top minds in snow and avalanche science, WYSAW reached about 1,000 people, with the majority being online viewers. WYSAW wrapped up on the afternoon of October 23 with a Vendor Fair on the lawn of the Center for the Arts that showcased various snow sports brands and local businesses. A raffle raised more than $20,000 for TCSAR, and we couldn’t be more grateful for that generous support.

“The hands-on nature of the workshops was incredibly valuable. I had a conceptual understanding of topics like bear defense and first aid going into the workshops, but actually bear-spraying a fake charging bear and dressing a bleeding wound in animal flesh broadened my knowledge and built my confidence that I’d be able to respond in the wilderness in a meaningful way...I am grateful you all made these resources and all knowledge available—and so affordable—to the community.” —Megan Morris, 2021 WIYP participant
Safety education continues for Winter 2021/22, with numerous events scheduled throughout the season. These include:

December 2, 6:30 pm
22nd Annual Skinny Skis Virtual Avy Night

December 7 and December 14, 4–6 pm
Beacons and Brews
Experts from Arc’teryx and Exum Mountain Guides offer beacon practice and other backcountry skills at the base of Snow King Mountain. Roadhouse Brewing and Stio will be present to dole out beer and prizes.

December 15, 5:30 pm
What’s In Your Pack for Kids

December 16, 6 pm
What’s In Your Pack for Adults

January 4, 6 pm
What’s In Your Pack for Women

State of the Snowpack
at Headwall Sports, with local snow pros giving updated snowpack conditions from the Tetons. Dates TBD.

Find the latest events, scheduling, and programs at BackcountryZero.com/events
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 & 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.

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
FIO LAZARTE BEAL & MATT BEAL ELIZABETH BECKER PARKER
JOE & GAINOR BENNETT DENNIS & CAROL BERRYMAN STEPHANIE BRENNAN
LINDA & TONY BROOKS LYONS & ZOOEY BROWN
MARY KATE BUCKLEY JOHN & ELAINE CARNEY SANDY CHAPMAN
TIM & ANA CHAPMAN

RAY SHRIVER

Farmers,可以看出它是一个农场。
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- Raintree Foundation

Supports the team with meals, and every WYSP attendee with a free burrito.

Education Sponsors:
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- Jenny Lake Rangers
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- Rendezvous River Sports
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- Skinny Skis
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- Stephen P. Adamson Jr. Memorial Fund
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- Stinky Prints
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- Teton County Sheriff’s Office
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- STEP
- Stio
- Sweet Cheeks Meats
- Teton County Sheriff’s Office
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Beacons & Brews

Donates two meals/year for entire team, with continued generous support.

Provides bars every month for TCSAR volunteers.

Generously sponsors summer WYSP programs, serve on our education committee, support authentic shop culture, and host avy night.

www.tetoncountysar.org

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