

Woman took fall, possible broken leg

May 27, 1998
Isomata/Grotto
1998-008

RMRU was called to respond to the report of a young woman with a probable fractured lower extremity. She was in the rugged drainage of Strawberry Creek known to Idyllwild locals as The Grotto. Apparently, while hiking with companions, a large rock was dislodged, which then rolled over her leg. About 15 team members responded for this difficult carry out. The woman was found on the far side of Strawberry Creek on a steep scree slope. Idyllwild Fire had already done a medical assessment and splinted the leg. Water levels were extremely high and it was very noisy. The noise, the wet rock, and the torturous terrain demanded constant belays. In spite of the manpower, and a relatively short distance to negotiate, it took three hours to get the woman safely to a waiting ambulance. As it turned out, she did not have a broken limb.

RMRU is a volunteer search and rescue team that covers Riverside County and assists other teams with search and rescue efforts in other counties. Each member purchases their own equipment and takes time off work, without compensation, to participate in search and rescue missions. Team equipment is purchased from contributions from the community. We are a non-profit organization and are funded by [donations](#) from people like you.