



Search PCT Snow Creek

May 5, 2012
San Jacinto Mountains
2012-014

Written by Pete Carlson

On Saturday, May 5, 2012, seventeen RMRU team members were at Indian Cove Campground in Joshua Tree National Park to conduct a “technical rock” training. At 9:30 a.m. call captain Gwenda Yates received a call via her cell phone reporting that a hiker was off trail and lost on the North West side of San Jacinto Peak. We immediately started to take down the rope systems we had just set up. Everyone returned to camp, packed everything up, and headed to Snow Creek.

When the first RMRU members got to Snow Creek and met with the Sheriff we found out that Sheriff’s Aviation was flying search. Within a few minutes they spotted the hiker and were able to pick him up and bring him back down to Snow Creek Base Camp. The subject was unhurt; he had simply lost the trail and did not know which way to go.

We all then turned around and drove back to Joshua Tree National Park, a total of 104 miles round trip and three lost hours of training.

RMRU team members present: Paul Caraher, Pete Carlson, Carlos Carter, Michael George, Donny Goetz, Glenn Henderson, Mark Houston, Matt Jordon, Helene Lohr, Alan Lovegreen, Kelly McDole, Chad Marler, Rob May, Jeri Sanchez, Frank Snider, Les Walker, and Gwenda Yates.

Aviation assets: Riverside Sheriff’s Star 9.

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.