

# RIVERSIDE MOUNTAIN RESCUE UNIT

## After Training Hikes

Nov 07, 2020

Saddle Junction and Tahquitz Peak

2020-T11E

Written by James Eckhardt.

After the ELT training, Blake and Kase headed to South Ridge trailhead to hike Tahquitz while the rest of the team went to eat. I wanted to enjoy the first snow of the season, so after eating I headed to Humber Park to hike to Saddle Junction. Snow covered the roads the entire way up to Humber Park and was 2-4" deep at the trailhead. As I hiked up, squalls would blow up the mountain bringing graupel, winds and reduced visibility.



**Fresh Snow on Trees**  
Image by James

Snow levels did not increase significantly with elevation, but wind definitely did, causing minor drifting. I made it to Saddle Junction and hiked back down uneventfully, but greatly enjoyed the harsh conditions and beauty the new snow brings.

Throughout the next 24 hours, the mountain received significantly more snow which will likely melt off southern slopes but stick around drainages and northern slopes for the foreseeable future.



**New Snow Saddle Junction  
Image by James**

Kase and Blake had an equally great hike up to the Tahquitz Peak Lookout. And as you can see in the following pictures it was cold and everything was covered in ice.



**25.4 degrees at the lookout.  
Image by Kase**



**Kase and the Lookout covered in ice.  
Image by Kase.**

**RMRU Members Involved:** Kase Chong, Blake Douglas, and James Eckhardt.