

Tehachapi Mountains Search & Rescue - TMSAR

The Tehachapi Mountains Search & Rescue is an all-volunteer, nonprofit organization under the direction of the Kern County Sheriff's Dept. Our primary mission is locating and rescuing missing or lost persons, such as hikers or injured hunters. Members train every month on topics such as CPR/First Aid/AED; Ropes, Knots, and Rappelling; Map & Compass; 4 x 4 and quad; Radio Communications; GPS; ELT training to locate downed aircraft; Man Tracking and others. The Sheriff's Dept. provides access to vehicles and fuel. Otherwise, we are self-funded, receiving no governmental assistance, solely supported by fundraisers or donations. Unit members must purchase their own personal equipment and gear for their participation in the unit.

Some of the events we volunteered for during the 2015-2016 year:



Mudslides - October 2015

Flash floods and a resulting massive mudslide caused by heavy rainfall hit the Tehachapi area and engulfed 192 vehicles on Hwy. 58. TMSAR assisted the multi-agency response by providing our command trailer as their incident command center while our rescue teams worked over 36 hours straight, with 24 of those hours at night, to help with the rescue of approximately 300 people from the stranded and buried vehicles.



Erskine Fire – June 2016

TMSAR members supported Law Enforcement and Firefighters in the Erskine Fire in the Lake Isabella area. Our Members volunteered over 300 combined hours, helping with evacuations, bringing meals to deputies stationed at road blocks, searching for hot spots from the fire, and assisting dog teams in searching for victims in burned out areas.



Deer Fire – July 2016

TMSAR Members volunteered over 200 combined hours for the Deer fire, assisting in evacuations of Bear Valley Springs residents and support to Law Enforcement by providing a command center. The City of Tehachapi donated this 22' trailer a few years ago and our own members worked hard to modify it for use as a Mobile Command Center. Since its completion, we have utilized it during events like the Gran Fondo, Mud Slides, and the Deer Fire.



Fireworks - July 4, 2016

Team members assisted with the setting up, and cleanup of the Tehachapi City 4th of July Fireworks, volunteering over 100 combined hours. Immediately after cleanup at 11:00 pm, we were called out on a search off of Hwy. 223 and were out until 5:30 am the next morning.



“Wish List”

Some items we are currently in need of:

- Radio headsets for command trailer (approximately \$1,500)
- Rappelling ropes and gear need replaced (approximately \$2,000)
- Tires replaced for our 3 quads (12 tires at \$120 each at approximately \$1,440)
- New radios (approximately \$3,000)
- New air conditioning unit for command trailer
- Garmin Rino GPS (5 to 10 at approximately \$400 each)
- Update medical gear (approximately \$1,000)
- Full size 4x4 truck to tow our 22' trailer
- Facility to maintain/store SAR vehicles and trailers all in one location



Contact information: Jeff Snyder, Captain, at 661.972.4201

Website: TMSAR.ORG