



Supporting The Efforts Of Mountain Rescue Operations

vailmountainrescue.org

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It was a busy holiday season for Vail Mountain Rescue Group. As visitors from urban areas converge on the valley and nighttime temperatures plummet to well below zero, the consequences of poor decision-making in the backcountry become ever more dire. Even the most well-traveled trails near town can turn deadly for the ill-equipped and unprepared. Case in point: a Search And Rescue last week a mile up the Booth Falls Trail just outside Vail Village. Pictured here are two VMRG rescuers tending to an 18-year-old male from Denver who became disoriented in the darkness after separating from his hiking party in the afternoon. When found by a VMRG dog team 50 yards below the trail in Booth Creek at around 7 p.m., the subject was alert but shivering uncontrollably. Although he was bundled in a sweater and leather jacket layered beneath a double-breasted wool topcoat, his cotton blue jeans were

crusted in ice and snow from the knees down, and his canvas sneakers and cotton socks, soaked in creek water, had frozen solid. After warming the subject with heat blankets and dry clothing (including a borrowed pair of insulated boots), rescuers (a dozen responded) helped the subject climb out of the creek bed and walk down the main trail to a waiting ambulance. Another amazing effort by the Vail Mountain Rescue team!

Be sure to follow us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/Friends where we share more frequent rescue stories.

Thank you for supporting Friends of Mountain Rescue.

With great appreciation,

Thomas Howard

President, Friends of Mountain Rescue

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