Scenario 3: Lost hikers – Tahoe

Real Cases

1. <http://www.tahoedailytribune.com/trending/missing-hiker-found-in-desolation-wilderness/>
   * 1. A Canadian hiker was found dead near his campsite at noon on Monday, September 4th, 2017 just off the Tahoe Rim Trail near 10,881′ Freel Peak in Lake Tahoe, CA. (snowbrains.com)
2. Missing on Tahoe Rim Trail (self.CampingandHiking)
   1. A friend of a friend is missing after hiking the Tahoe rim trail on Friday. The original post from his daughter-in-law:

\*MISSING along the Tahoe Rim Trail - Gordon Yorke - PLEASE SHARE

Hey everyone. This is never the kind of post you want to have to write but here we are.

Sept 1 Sean's dad is on a solo backpacking trip along the Tahoe Rim Trail in Nevada and California, and we haven't heard from him in 7 days. We had expected to hear from him 2-3 times by now, so this is very worrying. We have officially reported him as a missing person to the local authorities and rangers in the area.

Gord is approx 5'10, 200 lbs, blue eyes, grey hair and beard. He is a Canadian citizen hiking in the US alone. He has a ton of gear so we aren't sure what he's got with him, but he likely is sleeping in a MEC Volt 3 Ultralite Tent (white and lime green) and has a tan-coloured rimmed sun hat with a Canadian flag patch on it. Backpack will be a large hiking pack and probably a darker colour, possibly blue.

The last thing we received from him was a Ping from him SPOT device at the Kingsbury Trail head on Friday Aug 25 at 7:27 AM. We aren't positive which direction he planned to hike the trail, but he likely headed north from Kingsbury, planning to end at the Taylor Creek Visitors Centre. We do know that his plan was to cover an average of approx 20 - 24 km / day, planning to arrive in Tahoe City by tomorrow, Sept. 2, and then to continue on from there. We have alerted the appropriate people in Tahoe City as well.

Gord is a very experienced hiker and it is extremely unusual that we haven't heard from him by now. He carries a device that works off of satellite, so "not having cell service" definitely is not the issue here.

Update Sept 2, 7:05pm - Gord has officially missed his resupply pickup in Tahoe City. Search and Rescue has began efforts to develop a plan to start their search, but are not physically searching as of yet.

Update Sept 3, 7:10pm - Gord has missed his resupply pickup for the second day in a row now. I hoped to have some news by now, but unfortunately, we are just more and more confused and worried by the hour. Sean has been working tirelessly with local Tahoe area law enfocement, SAR, as well as Calgary Police and more. We are trying to track his SPOT. We are trying to track his phone. We have alerted local businesses in Tahoe City in case he turns up later tonight. We are waiting on more information from SAR. We are doing literally everything we can think of. Please keep the positive thoughts coming. We are so tired.

Sadly the gentleman was found deceased a little while ago, according to the person that posted the alert on facebook.

EDIT: Let this all be a reminder to us all to always let someone know our plans for any hike. My thoughts are with this man's family.

There appear to be two Kingsbury trailheads (North and South); I assume the SPOT coordinates identified a particular one. Would he have left a vehicle there, and do you have anyone on the ground who can put up missing posters in case someone remembers seeing him?

1. (<https://www.reddit.com/r/CampingandHiking/comments/6y1h87/missing_on_tahoe_rim_trail/>) KTVN News: Missing Hiker Found Early Tuesday Morning
   1. A hiker missing near the Mount Rose Ski Resort is safe at home after Washoe County Sheriff's Office Search and Rescue team found him at around 1:00 a.m. Tuesday morning.
   2. 21-year old Jared Garritson was on a hike with his 2 friends Monday morning. At about 3:00 p.m. Garritson's 2 friends realized that he had fallen behind and they couldn't find him. They searched until dark and called search and rescue shortly after. Using a signal put out by Garritson cell phone, rescuers were able to find where he was located. Officials say he was in an area of heavy brush and was heading away from the trail.Search and rescue had about 20 people looking for him. Officials say he only had some cuts and bruises, but is said to be doing fine.
2. From South Tahoe Now
   1. 5/7 2:11 p.m. - Search & Rescue - Horsetail Falls - SEARCH AND RESCUE INITIATED FOR 2 LOST HIKERS AT HORSETAIL FALLS.
   2. 11/20/16 11:28 a.m. - Search & Rescue - Eagles Falls Trail - SEARCH AND RESCUE INITIATED FOR 4 MALE LOST HIKERS (AGES 18, 25, 42. 43) IN DESOLATION WILDERNESS NEAR VELMA LAKES AND EAGLE FALLS TRAIL.
   3. Three men from Sacramento rescued from rocks in Desolation Wilderness Bill Lindelof, Sacramento Bee A CHP helicopter crew and rescue personnel with mountain climbing experience had to be called upon the get three young people from Sacramento off a rocky Sierra Nevada outcropping.
   4. 11/15 3:37 p.m. - Mt. Tallac - SEARCH AND RESCUE INITIATED FOR TWO LOST HIKERS COMING DOWN FROM MT TALLAC. LOST WAS A 27 YEAR OLD WOMAN AND A 30 YEAR OLD MAN.
   5. Two Hiking Groups Get Lost In South Lake Tahoe Area Friday; Both Found Safe

El Dorado County Sheriff's Search and Rescue teams were called out twice on Friday evening, once to the Cascade Falls area and the other to Vikingsholm. The first call came in just before 5 p.m. on Friday, March 15. Two women from Illinois were hiking near Cascade Falls and became lost. They called 911. While waiting to be located, the women came across other hikers who assisted them in returning to the camp ground where they were met by Search and Rescue at approximately 6 p.m. No injuries were reported.

* 1. El Dorado County Search and Rescue deployed to 11 calls throughout Lake Tahoe and Sierra

Submitted by Editor on Thu, 10/25/2012 - 8:58am

Lt. Tim Becker, El Dorado County Sheriff's Office

It has been a very busy week for the El Dorado County Sheriff’s Search and Rescue Unit. Numerous backcountry visitors were caught off guard with the arrival of this weekend’s inclement weather.

Approximately 60 SAR volunteers along with four Sheriff’s deputies responded to 11 different deployments between Friday and Wednesday. Nine of the SAR events were within the borders of El Dorado County while two were in Alpine County.

1. From Mountain Democrat
   1. Missing hiker found

A Missing hiker reunited with his friends after spending a night in the wilderness. Today, El Dorado County Sheriff deputies, along with Search and Rescue and the California Highway Patrol’s H-20 helicopter coordinated a search for a missing hiker inside Desolation Wilderness. The hiker became separated from his friends near Lake of the Woods. He […]

* 1. Missing hiker found Monday

The search for a missing hiker had a happy ending after he was discovered by crews early Monday morning. Douglas Brett, 61, a resident from the Bay Area, became separated from his friend during a hike on the Caples Lake Trail near the Silver Fork Campground. His hiking partner called 911 on Sunday around 9

* 1. Missing hiker found in Desolation Wilderness

The El Dorado County Sheriff’s Office received a call about a missing hiker on Sunday, Sept. 30 just after 6 p.m. He was found the next morning. Two men and two women had gone on a hike into Desolation Wilderness after parking at the Echo Lakes Lodge, a press release stated. Their intent had been […]

* 1. Missing hiker found

Larry Layman, 64, of Reno, Nev., went missing Sunday morning, only to be found Monday morning. Layman had been hiking with two co-workers to Pyramid Peak from Horsetail Falls in South Lake Tahoe, said Dep. Greg Almos of El Dorado County Sheriff’s Office Search and Rescue. He began to “have issues with his canine,” Almos

* 1. Search called off for missing hiker

Tahoe Daily Tribune INCLINE VILLAGE — The Washoe County Sheriff’s Office has suspended its search for a Reno hiker, saying it’s unlikely he’s still alive after four days in the heavy snow and bitter cold. The announcement was made late Wednesday after a 76-hour search by regional rescue crews. Rick Gentry, 55, of Reno, was […]

* 1. Search for missing hiker suspended due to weather

Tahoe Daily Tribune INCLINE VILLAGE, Nev. — Regional emergency crews, including Search and Rescue personnel from El Dorado County, have temporarily suspended a search for a missing hiker due to concerns over visibility and avalanche potential, officials said Tuesday. “As soon as conditions permit, we will resume the search,” said Washoe County Sheriff’s Office spokesman […]

* 1. Man missing from Ice House

A man went missing Saturday near Ice House. The family of Vernon “Cody” Matthews, 23, informed El Dorado County Sheriff’s Dispatch the evening of June 7 that they had not had any contact with Mathews since the previous day, a press release stated. Matthews had been dropped off at a family cabin in Ice House […] June 11, 2014 | Posted in News | Tagged A1, printed

1. Desolation Wilderness hiker found

By Axie Navas anavas@tahoedailytribune.com Search and rescue teams located the 28-year-old missing hiker on Thursday about 2:30 p.m. near Middle Velma Lake. Nathan Spearing, who suffered nothing more than wet feet, said he camped near Lower Velma Lake on Monday when he awoke to 6 inches of fresh snow. When he saw blue sky around 10:30 […]