Helicopter Rescues in the Pacific Northwest

J. Colquhoun 2015

Introductions

- Chief Warrant Officer 4 Brian Roche

- Sergeant First Class Daniel Cleveland

- Staff Sergeant Taylor Hauck

Introductions

Agenda

- Who we are

- How we get involved

- Big picture capabilities

- Big picture limitations

- Medical care
  - On scene
  - En route

- Recommendations

- Questions/answers

Who We Are

- Oregon Army National Guard
  - Fundamentally 'Army'
  - State control during 'dwell' periods

- Army aviation <u>ME</u>dical <u>EVAC</u>uation (MEDEVAC)
  - Overlap with domestic search-and-rescue
    - Medical expertise/capability
    - Hoist Capability
    - Performance at altitude

- NOT 24/7 search-and-rescue firm

How We Get Involved (Trauma)

- Point of injury – trauma occurs
- 911 call, personal locator/distress beacon
- Dispatch contacts local sheriff
- Sheriff coordinates response (SAR/ropes team)
- Sheriff IDs need for air/hoist assets
- Sheriff contacts Oregon Emergency Management
- OEM contacts Oregon Military Department
- State Army Aviation Officer accepts/rejects
- Passed to Operations to execute   (3-6 hours!)

Big Picture Capabilities

- Hoist capable up to ~10K feet

- Pickup direct at point of injury

- Transport directly to treatment facility
  - "Tail-to-tail" transfer

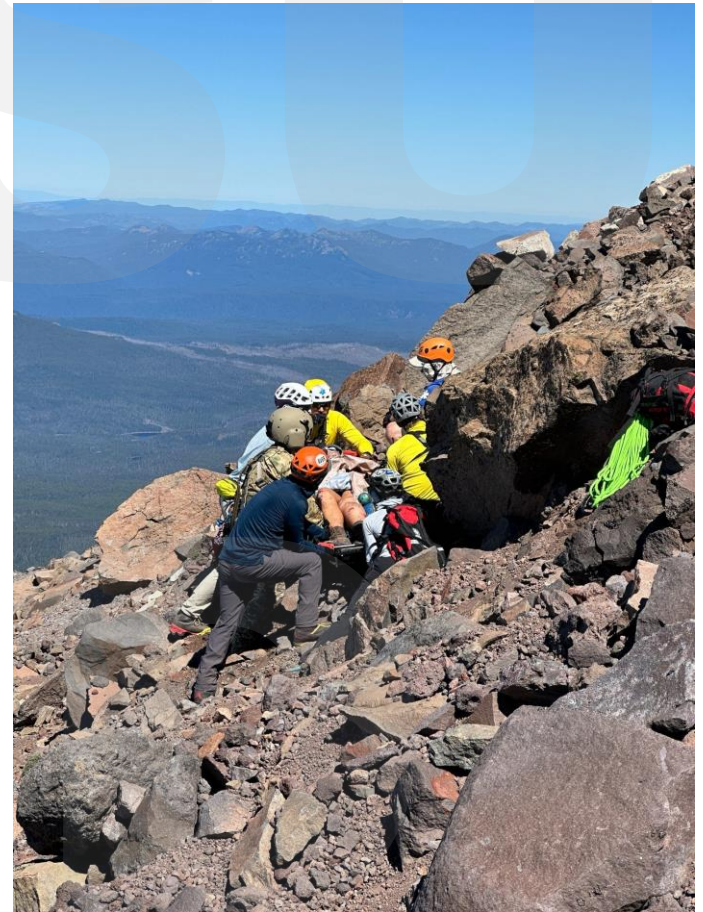- Enroute care

Big Picture Limitations

- Not 24/7 on-call
  - Long response times
- Weather and environmental
  - Wind
  - Heat
  - Altitude
  - Clouds
- Fuel
- Duty day

Medical Capabilities

- ALS providers
  - NRP, CCP, FPC

- Trauma care

- Medical care

Medical Care – On Scene

Medical Care - En Route

- ALS equipment
  - Vent
  - Monitor
  - Suction
  - Splints/ trauma care
- Meds
  - RSI
  - Pain meds
  - ACLS

Medical Care – En Route

Recommendations

- Buddy system
  - Solo, "Where you'll be"

- Personal Locator Beacon/Satellite Messenger
  - Cell phone (meh?)

- Bright-colored clothing

- Signaling devices (whistle, mirror)

- Basic or intermediate first-aid training

- Local mountaineering groups

- Risk *understanding* and *tolerance*

Questions/Answers!