

SARSAT Weekly Rescues Report for period 1 June to 7 June 2012.

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)
Search and Rescue Satellite Aided Tracking System Rescues,
Fourteen.

Incident 1:

Beacon ID: 2DCE5DED8CFFBFF

On 1 June 2012 at 1009 UTC the COSPAS-SARSAT system detected a 406 MHz PLB at 68 08.1N 151 31.2W, 124 NM south of Nuiqsut, AK. Two individuals traveling on 4-wheelers, activated their PLB when a river they had previously crossed, became too high to go back across. Alaska Rescue Coordination Center (AKRCC) received the SARSAT alert and forwarded coordinates to North Slope Borough Search and Rescue (NSB). NSB dispatched a ground team to the SARSAT location. The ground team located the stranded travelers and took them across the river to safety on an Argo amphibious vehicle.

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Incident 2:

Beacon ID: ADCD02287541401

On 1 June 2012 at 2013 UTC the COSPAS-SARSAT system detected a 406 MHz EPIRB at 46 12.7N 124 06.2W 3 NM west of the Columbia River Inlet, 6 NM northwest of Astoria, OR. The captain of the fishing vessel Orion activated the EPIRB when the Orion became disabled in rough seas. Coast Guard District 13 (CGD13) received the SARSAT alert and forwarded coordinates to Coast Guard Station Columbia River. Columbia River made callouts, issued an Urgent Marine Information Broadcast. Station Columbia River received no response to the radio callouts, but did receive reports of a flare in a position that coincided with SARSAT data. Station Columbia River launched a helicopter and motor life boat. Station Columbia River was then able to make contact with the Orion's Captain, who explained he was preparing to abandon ship. The helicopter located the Orion and deployed a rescue swimmer. The rescue swimmer assisted the captain onto the motor life boat. The captain was then transferred to Emergency Medical Services in Ilwaco, WA.

1 SARSAT RESCUE

Incident 3:

Beacon ID: 2DCE54DCB4FFBFF

On 1 June 2012 at 2013 UTC the COSPAS-SARSAT system detected a 406 MHz PLB at 35 00.2N 111 58.1W in the Sycamore Canyon Wilderness Area 18 NM southwest of Flagstaff, AZ. A hiking party of six people (three adults and three children), activated the PLB when they ran out of water, 2 miles short of their objective location, in extreme temperatures. One of the hikers also contacted a spouse via SAT phone to request help notifying the authorities. Air Force Rescue Coordination Center (AFRCC) received the SARSAT alert and contacted the Coconino County Sheriff's Department, who was contacted by the hiker's wife at about the same time. AFRCC provided the Sheriff's Department with SARSAT coordinates. The Sheriff's Department dispatched a helicopter to the SARSAT location. The helicopter located the six hikers and airlifted them to safety.

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Incident 4:

Beacon ID: ADCD41F0000028D

On 5 June 2012 at 0757 UTC the COSPAS-SARSAT system detected a 406 MHz EPIRB at 28 25.9N 93 27.5W, 50 NM southeast of New Orleans, LA. The fishing vessel Lancero, with a crew of five, began taking on water. The crew manually activated the vessel's EPIRB and radioed Coast Guard District 8 Rescue Coordination Center (CGD8). CGD8 launched a Falcon jet and diverted an H-65 helicopter from another case. CGD8 later received the SARSAT alert and forwarded the SARSAT position to the outbound aircraft. The Coast Guard aircraft located the Lancero, and dropped pumps to assist with dewatering. A sister ship of the Lancero, the Rancho, also arrived to help. Once the Lancero was dewatered, it returned to port escorted by the Rancho.

5 SARSAT RESCUES

Total number of rescues for FY 12: 168

111 Total number of rescues for the calendar year 2012:

Significance: The SARSAT system protects life and property in support of the nation's commerce and transportation systems. (Steve Roark 301-817-3896)