



For Immediate Release
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Alaska Air National Guard Rescues Stranded Snowmachiners *Pararescuemen recover two men near Summit Lake*

CAMP DENALI, Alaska –Alaska Air National Guardsmen successfully recovered two men from a ravine in the vicinity of Summit Lake, when their snow machine was stuck in deep snow on Feb. 21.

The 11th Rescue Coordination Center dispatched the 210th, 211th and 212th Rescue Squadrons from Kulis Air National Guard Base, after receiving a call from Alaska State Troopers at 7:38 p.m., reporting that two men were stranded in a steep ravine eight miles north of Paxson.

An Alaska Air National Guard 210th Rescue Squadron HH-60 Pave Hawk and a 211th Rescue Squadron HC-130 Hercules both with 212th Rescue Squadron pararescuemen onboard launched at approximately 9 p.m.

Upon arriving on scene, the Pave Hawk landed on a knoll near the two riders, while the Hercules set up a communication link with the RCC.

Pararescuemen disembarked the Pave Hawk and trudged through deep snow to reach the men and assist them back to the helicopter.

The stranded snowmachiners told the pararescuemen, that while riding their snow machines with two other men, one of them got stuck in deep snow. Unable to get the snowmachine free, and extremely cold and wet, two of the riders went for help.

The pararescuemen helped the men back to the Pave Hawk, where one of the riders was treated for mild frostbite to his feet. Pararescuemen cut away the injured mans wet clothes and bundled him in a double sleeping bag before the helicopter lifted out of the ravine.

The men were successfully delivered to Providence Alaska Medical Center at 1:20 a.m. Feb. 22 for further medical care.

The 210th, 211th, and 212th Rescue Squadrons were awarded two saves for this mission.