



AAC Publications

Stranded - Darkness, Inadequate Equipment

Colorado, Eldorado Canyon State Park

About 6 p.m. on January 26, Tim Holm (22), Davis Gray (22), and Josh Jordan (21) became stranded on the fifth pitch of the Yellow Spur (5.10a) on Redgarden Wall. Rescuers received a call for assistance from another climber in the area, who reported hearing a male yelling for help. The reporting party yelled back at the stranded climber and asked if he wanted a rescue. The stranded climber responded, "Yes." Twelve rescuers from the Rocky Mountain Fire Department, Rocky Mountain Rescue Group, Boulder Emergency Squad, and the Boulder County Sheriff's Office climbed to the top of the Redgarden Wall and contacted the stranded climbers at about 8 p.m. All were assisted to the ground with no injuries. (Source: Joe Rubino.)

Analysis

The climbers reported that as they neared the top of the Yellow Spur they had to wait for a slower group above them. It became dark and started raining, and they were not equipped with headlamps or flashlights. When climbing during winter months, climbers should anticipate shorter daylight hours, colder temperatures, and changing weather conditions. In preparation, climbers should carry extra clothing, a headlamp, food, and water. When attempting multi-pitch routes, it's prudent to research escape options and note rappel anchors en route in case you are unable to complete the ascent. (Source: Aram Attarian.)

Images

Article Details

Author	
Publication	ANAM
Volume	10
Issue	67
Page	61
Copyright Date	2014
Article Type	Accident reports