

## After Action Report

DATE: March 25, 2007

SUBJECT: After Action Report – Ramsey Canyon

FROM: Robert Hollister

TO: David Noland, CCSO SAR Coordinator

CC: Mike Evans, CC Emergency Services  
RACES Team

### 1. PURPOSE:

This report briefly describes the support provided by the RACES Communications team to the Cochise County Search and Rescue Team on 24-25 March 2007. It does not address any SAR specific operational issues.

### 2. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

At approximately 1930 hours on 24 March, 2007 the RACES team received notification by page of a search mission in the Ramsey Canyon area of the Huachuca Mountains for two lost hikers. The report came in via cell phone to the Sheriff's dispatch that there were two hikers near the intersection of the Crest Trail, Sunnyside Trail and Pat Scott Peak Trail. They had found trail markers but were not sure how to get back down from their location. Three ground teams were deployed. AZ DPS Phoenix Ranger began to conduct an air search and found them as they flashed their phone (camera?) as they flew over. DPS was unable to land due to the terrain but provided good grid coordinates. DPS proceeded to a landing zone near the Search CP, picked up some clothing, and then air dropped this package with Chem-Lights and a note to the missing party to advise them a team was enroute by ground to their location. The mission was completed and the MCU returned to the Club Site by 0215 (3/25).

### 3. LESSONS LEARNED

Antenna Issues – We once again discovered that there is still an issue with the antenna cabling and / or the Big Stick antenna. While sitting in his vehicle, one of the deputies was able to clearly hear the ground team that was up the mountain on his vehicle radio. The MCU had practically no coverage of that team using the Big Stick. Switching back to roof mounted antennas in the MCU provided better coverage.

### 4. COMMENTS

No mission specific comments on this event.

### 5. ACTION ITEMS

1 – The Big Stick Antenna, as well as associated antenna cabling/connectors to the antenna patch panel, needs to be double checked very carefully.

2 – We need a backup color ink cartridge for the printer. It was used at DICE and not yet replaced.

#### Appendix – Participants

CCSO SAR Team

AZ DPS Ranger

RACES Team

Bob Hollister – MCU Operator/Chase Vehicle

Dale Chidester - MCU Operator/Driver

Charles Campbell – MCU Operator

Barb Heck – Home Unit Monitor

Debra L Bush - Home Unit Monitor