

Unusual rescue performed

On Feb. 14 several members of the Tooele County Search and Rescue were called and asked to participate in an unusual rescue.

A lion hunter and his dogs had chased two mountain lions to an abandoned mine. One dog and both lions fell down an 80 foot deep vertical shaft.

Jim Ekins, the Wildlife Resources Officer for Tooele County, called and asked if anyone in the Search and Rescue could repel into the vertical shaft. The dog was miraculously lassoed and pulled from the shaft the day before. However, the two lions remained trapped.

The Tooele County Search and Rescue team took on the task as

a challenge.

Randy Callicot was repelled into the shaft by members of the rescue team with the very much alive lions. A tranquilizer dart was used to incapacitate the two animals.

The lions were then hoisted from the 80 foot shaft.

When outside the shaft members from the Tooele Search and Rescue team and Wildlife Resources Division transported them for observation and injuries.

Although the Search and Rescue does not rescue animals normally, this is the second time their expertise has been called upon for such a venture.

1993 Two mountain lions rescued after fall into shaft



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