



Emergency Medical Response and Evacuation Plan (EMREP)

(Discuss with volunteers at each Tailgate Safety Session)

The purpose of the EMREP is to delegate important roles for a project day in advance of an accident or serious injury. This limits confusion in the event of a serious accident or injury. Assign a person with the highest level of medical training (EMT, WFR, etc.) as the “First Aid Lead.” The Forest Service will take on the role of “Project Leader” and another person with relevant experience can be designated to be the back-up should the Project Leader become incapacitated. Be sure that the volunteers are aware of who is carrying the first aid kit(s). The Project Leader should be informed of any injuries sustained throughout the day, no matter how small. Check with the volunteers if anyone has allergies that the First Aid Lead needs to be aware of and if anyone is carrying an EPI (epinephrine injector) pen. Delegate these roles at the trailhead during the Tailgate Safety Sessions so that the volunteers are clear about the expectations of roles in the event of an emergency.

Evacuations - The Project Leader will be familiar with the project area and plan, in advance, the route and mode of removal of an ill or injured person(s) or all of the volunteers during an emergency. EMS personnel or EMTs only are to be in charge of moving injured person(s) unless in imminent danger. If a person(s) must be evacuated, the Project Leader is responsible for maintaining control and group cohesion while evacuating.

Role	Responsibilities
Project Leader (PL)	The Project Leader is in charge of the emergency incident until EMS personnel arrive. Ensure that outside help is being contacted, evacuation routes prepared, and the rest of the volunteers are kept under control.
Alternate Project Leader	Takes on the role of Project Leader if the Project Leader becomes incapacitated. This will usually be Forest Service personnel or as appointed by the PL.
First Aid Lead	Individual with the most medical experience; initiates care for the patient when injury occurs; performs patient assessment; carries first aid kit.
Communications Lead	Will be Forest Service personnel, defaults to Project Leader if only one FS is available. Carries radio/cell phone, ensures it is charged, tuned, and ready; calls for assistance in event of emergency. If needed, ensures SPOT device is functional and has relayed the emergency message.

IN THE EVENT OF AN EMERGENCY, FOLLOW THESE GENERAL STEPS:

1. **Is the scene safe?** Look out for any dangers or hazards to you, volunteers, and the injured party.
2. **First Aid Lead cares for the patient(s).** Get patient’s permission (if awake) to administer aid.
3. **Serious or life threatening injuries – Call 911.** If cell coverage is absent, make contact with any Forest Service person and they will use radio to contact Boulder County Fire Dispatch to relay the medical emergency. If cell and radio coverage is absent, activate the emergency medical beacon on the SPOT device.
4. **Non-life-threatening injuries.** Get patient(s) medical treatment as soon as possible and as safely as possible, if needed. Rushing out of a situation can lead to additional injuries.

COMMUNICATIONS

1. **Pre-trip Preparation.** Know in advance which device works best (cell phone, radio, or SPOT device), and where reception is best near the project work site. Know where the Heli-Spot is in case of medical evacuation.
2. **Radios.** Will be the primary communication method. Forest Service personnel will be carrying handheld radios with back-up batteries and will have working mobile radios in their vehicles.
3. **Cell Phones.** Cell phone coverage on the Boulder Ranger District is spotty. If cell phone contact with 911 is made, be sure to provide important information immediately in case being disconnected.
 - a. **Immediately provide 911 operators:**
 - i. Your cell phone number
 - ii. Location calling from (include GPS if possible)
 - iii. Injury specifics and patient(s) status
 1. Conscious?
 2. Breathing?
 - iv. If Ambulance or Flight for Life are required?
 1. Relay identified Heli-Spot or Landing Zone (LZ)
4. **SPOT Device.** **Shall only be used as a last resort and with Forest Service approval when emergency communication cannot be established via radio or cell phone.** When using the SPOT device, power it on, **press the SOS button and wait for the light to blink green.** SPOT devices can be found in the glove box of any Forest Service vehicle or as identified by Forest Service Project Leader.