

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact:Chuck MelvinTel:(970) 882-4746Cell:(970) 759-5290Email:k9@k9team.orgPhotos:Two attached at end

DATE: June 19, 2009

K9 TEAM CO-HOSTS LARGE SEARCH AND RESCUE EXERCISE

The local K-9 Search and Rescue Team and Colorado State Parks recently cohosted a large-scale search and rescue exercise based in the area of Lone Mesa, involving agencies from all over the Four Corners and beyond. Attendees included The U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary, United Search and Rescue, PANSAR, K9 Search and Rescue Team Inc., CO State Parks Flat Water Team, Flight for Life, Upper San Juan SAR, McKinley County SAR, Rocky Mountain Trackers & Joel Hardin Professional Trackers, Mesa Verde National Park Fire & Rescue, and International Rescue and Relief from Union College, Nebraska.

The exercise was aimed at improving inter-agency communication and cooperation during search incidents. The weekend incorporated a full day of classes that included tracking, orienteering, helicopter safety, boating safety, technical rescue and the use of OHV's. In addition, a multi-faceted search exercise was conducted using all of the resources available to locate and rescue two 'victims'.

The overhead team for the event which included personnel from United Search and Rescue, Colorado State Parks, and K9 Search and Rescue Team, wish to thank everyone who attended the weekend who made it such a learning experience and a special thanks to all of the volunteers who made it possible.

For more information about the K9 Search and Rescue Team, visit their website at <u>www.k9team.org</u>.





U.S. Coast Guard Auxillary prepare to dock at House Creek on McPhee Reservoir.



The Mobile Command Center for Montezuma County Search & Rescue becomes Incident Command Post for the SAREX mock search.