



28 September 2009

Japanese Bush Walkers Rescued

2 Japanese Tourists were winched to safety last night after spending 12 hours in freezing conditions at the Kanangra Boyd National Park.

Kanangra – Boyd is a national park 100km west of Sydney. It lies to the southwest of the Blue Mountains National Park.

2 X 28yo male tourists had set off an EPERB in the Kanangra Boyd Forest, Gangarang Range Track at around 0830 Sydney time yesterday morning.

NSW Ambulance Rescue Helicopter gained a visual with the 2 persons but due to severe winds they were unable to be winched out.

2 SCAT (Special Casualty Access Team) Paramedics undertook a 5hour trek into the 2 patients.

There was a 1 – 1 ½ Meter snow drift in the area, with high winds and low temperatures. 2 other SCAT officers were dispatched and were on standby at the Kanangra Boyd Car Park to stand by if needed.

2 Japanese Tourists were winched out of the Kanangra Boyd National Park by NSW Ambulance Helicopter to safety at around 1850 last night.

They were initially suffering from hypothermia, dehydration and severe exhaustion. The 2 male patients were taken to the NSW Ambulance Service Helicopter Base in Sydney, they were assessed en-route by the Medical Team and then allowed to be transported home by NSW Police.

The SCAT Paramedics who treated the tourists along with the 5 SES personnel had to then trek in the dark back out to the staging area which took approximately 5 hours to complete. Conditions in the area were still extremely cold, with snow and strong wind gusts.

A 2nd SCAT Paramedic crew also walked in to assist with carrying out rescue equipment. All personnel finally completed the trek out at 0015 this morning and returned to Sydney.

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