



PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CHP Helicopter hoist rescue of teenage fall victim

Henry Cowell State Park, Santa Cruz County, Calif. – On July 24, 2016 at approximately 1645 hours, CHP Helicopter 32 (H-32) was requested by Cal Fire (Felton) to assist with a rescue of a 19 year-old man that had fallen 30-40 feet from a cliff onto rocks and into the San Lorenzo River below. H-32 responded with a crew of 3 (a CHP Pilot and 2 CHP Paramedics). It was quickly determined that a hoist rescue was necessary due to the rugged terrain. H-32 hovered within the trees, and lowered a CHP Paramedic 125 feet to the patient below. The CHP Paramedic prepared the patient for hoist extraction and H-32 hoisted the patient up to the helicopter. The patient was flown to a nearby command post and the patient was transferred to the Stanford Life Flight helicopter for transport to a trauma center for treatment of serious but not life threatening injuries.

The California Highway Patrol Golden Gate Division Air Operations unit, based at the Napa County Airport, operates four aircraft (two airplanes and two helicopters) which patrol the 9 Bay Area Counties, approximately 6,923 square miles that is home to a residential population of more than 7 million people. The helicopter is routinely staffed with a CHP Officer/Pilot and a CHP Officer/Paramedic. The helicopter is equipped with a rescue hoist that has 165 feet of cable that can lift patients and/or rescuers, with a cumulative weight up to 450 pounds.

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