inReach if Needed

How Remote Communications Aid in Self-Rescue, SAR Protocol and Resource Deployment

Brett Wagenheim
inReach Professional Sales
Values of Remote Communications

- Information Relay
- Logistic Coordination
- Incident Management
- Control Expectations

The biggest thing is being able to communicate ..to tell your situation and get a different perspective on what you CAN do…Assessing more objectively is key to self-rescue

–Chris Korbulic
inReach Rescue Stats
EST. 2009

- 140,000+ Users
- 2100 Rescues to date
- Over 166 million texts to date
- Over 2+ million texts per month
- 10% of YTD SOS events are self-rescues

SOS Events Last 365 Days Worldwide
inReach SOS Case Study 1

Mt. Marcus Baker Ascent via Knik Glacier Route

- Friday, April 3rd climbers depart
- Weather shifts and storm arrives Day 2
- Tuesday, June 7th inReach SOS triggered
- 4 supply caches and rescue attempts fail over 72 hours of incident management
- Friday, June 10th successful rescue of all 3 climbers, transport to Anchorage's Providence Medical Center
inReach SOS Case Study

Kayak expedition team held hostage by FARC rebels on Colombia’s Rio Apaporis

5 international Kayakers embark on a month long journey to run the uncharted river within months of recent peace accord between the Colombian Government and notorious FARC rebels
A big part of an expedition is preparation. Knowing all the ways you can get in and out...

Knowing [your] exit strategies is really important.

–Korbulic
Those mental breakdowns can turn into bigger issues [and] bigger mistakes...spiraling into more grave situations. I’ve definitely seen the beginnings of those [situations] - Korbulic
As much as you try to separate yourself and look at your situation objectively,

if you feel stuck somewhere, you can’t mentally escape that…

– Korbulic
I guess the idea of self-rescue is assessing your situation and separating yourself from it... And slowing things down and looking at the bigger picture objectively - Korblic
Having the ability to communicate...when everything went wrong, literally kept us sane

- Critical Information Relay and Logistics Coordination
  - Location ID & Tracking
  - Weather updates
  - Medical Advice
  - Transport/Itinerary changes

- Incident Communication
  - Coordinate resource drops/resupplies
  - Gauge urgency and resource type required for response
  - Provide victims’ with updates and counsel

- Manage Expectations for involved parties
  - Create communication schedule and protocol
  - Provide support and hope in deteriorating conditions