

Media Release

Yavapai County Sheriff's Office

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Swift Water Competition results in 2nd place for Back Country Unit

Back on May 31, 2014, the Yavapai County Sheriff's Response Team (YCSRT) Backcountry Unit, participated in the 13th annual swift water rodeo held by the Arizona Hike Shack and the Department of Public Safety. This year the Backcountry Unit took two teams of swift water rescue technicians to the competition. One team took 2nd place overall the other team placed 3rd, only a few points behind. The competition took place at Saguaro Lake Ranch in Mesa, Arizona and involved various events including team rafting maneuvers and rope based swift water rescue scenarios.

There were twelve different agencies represented at the competition. Last year, the Backcountry Unit proudly took first place in the event.

Team member Josh Schmidt said, "The competition is great and more importantly the scenarios the team experiences and are exposed to provide an incredible challenge. The team looks forward to next year's competition as these scenarios are invaluable to our training. The YCSRT Backcountry Unit would like to give a special thanks to DPS and the Arizona Hike Shack, as well as any other individuals that donated their time to making this event possible."

Sheriff Mascher truly appreciates these incredible volunteers and their effort to strive and be the best experts in this field. YCSO is honored to have this team available 24/7 to those who might find themselves in need of such a water rescue.



In competition are Dan Hughart, Eric Naumetz, Josh Schmidt, Doug Taylor-Gebler, and Ken Harrington

Citizens can contact the Yavapai County Sheriff's Office with information or questions at 928-771-3260 or the YCSO website:

www.ycsoaz.gov