

Incident Notes 3Q 2022

Org Level:

Number of Incidents by Severity & Category –

- Number of incidents in 22 3Q YTD is in line with 21 3Q YTD, presaging 2022 incidents will align with past years' trend (ranging between 120 and 140 incidents per year).
- Distribution of incidents across severity levels and categories is aligned with trends.

Rate of Incidents by Severity & Category –

- Incident rate for 22 3Q YTD versus 21 3Q YTD is down from 3.8 to 2.9 incidents per 1,000 trip days* and is at the lower end of past years' trend (between 3 and 5). This indicates increased activities with relatively fewer incidents.
- The rate decline is in the "Minor" severity level and the "Slip, Fall, Capsize" incident category, with the other severity levels and incident category rates holding steady with past trends.

Number of Incidents by Activity Grouping (Off-trail, On-trail, Winter Water):

- Distribution of incidents across activity groups shows an overall decline in "on-trail" incidents (fewer slips, trips, falls) and an increase in "water" incidents (more "Near Miss / Safety Concern" incidents).
- Focusing on CMS incidents (Critical, Major, Significant), there is a marked increase in "on-trail" incidents and a corresponding decrease in "off-trail" incidents. Hence, although fewer in total, on-trail incidents increased in severity (more calls to SAR and/or hospital visits as a result of injury, illness, or heat related exhaustion).
- Off-trail –
 - Incident category number and rate in line with past trends (mostly "slip/fall" or "hit/struck") with slip/fall rate at 2.0 per thousand trip days and hit/struck at 1.0.
 - Incident severity number and rate continuing historical shift of relatively fewer CMS (from mid-twos to less than one per thousand trip days) and minor incidents (from +3 to less than 1.5) and a continuing increase in near-miss incidents reported (from 0 to 1.5).
- On-trail –
 - Increased number of incidents (at upper end of the 30 – 40 range, as has been the case for the last several years), with incident rate in-line with past trends (steady between 2 and 3 per thousand trip days). This indicates an increased number of on-trail activities with an increasing number of incidents but at the same overall rate per thousand trip days.
 - 50 – 60% of incidents are slip/fall and 20 – 25% of incidents are illness/conditioning
 - Severity increased with CMS (Critical, Major, Significant) increasing in rate from near zero to 0.6, and a decline in minor incident rate from +2 to 1.5. This may be the result of a trend toward increased age of participants, conditioning/illness issues, and/or impacts of increased heat.
- Winter –
 - Incident category and rates in line with past trends

- 2017 remains an anomalous year both for number and rate of winter incidents, approximately 50% more than other years
- Water –
 - Incidents increasing in 2022 as a result of increased “Near Miss” and “Safety Concern” incidents
 - This may be the result of a trend toward better visibility of incident reporting in the Mountaineers kayaking community, as well as increased age of participants, and conditioning/illness issues.

Activity Specific:

Climbing: in line with trends, between 30 – 40 incidents per year and a rate between 10 – 12 per thousand trip days. The climbing incident rate is several times the rate for the organization (3 – 4).

- Category frequency: 50% slip/trip/fall, 30% hit/struck
- Severity frequency: 15% CMS, 40% minor, 40% near-miss

Scrambling: in line with trends, between 20 – 30 incidents per year, and at a rate between 6 – 10 per thousand trip days. The scrambling incident rate is over twice the rate for the organization (3 – 4).

- Category frequency: slip/trip/fall increasing from 40% to 60%, with a corresponding reduction in hit/struck and illness/conditioning.
- Severity frequency: 20% CMS, 40% minor, 40% near-miss, with near-miss reporting consistently increasing over time.

Backpacking and Hiking: in line with trends (although trends show more variability between 15 – 30 per year) and rate in line with trends between 2 – 4 per thousand trip days.

- Category frequency: slip/trip/fall at 50-70% and illness/conditioning at 10-20%.
- Severity frequency: 10% CMS, 60% minor, 25% near-miss, with a jump in 2022 to 25% CMS and a corresponding decline in Minor to 45%).

Kayaking: increased number of incidents reported as a result of more near miss/safety concern incidents. Other category and severity measures in line with trends.