
**AIR FORCE RESCUE
COORDINATION CENTER**



2017 ANNUAL REPORT

TABLE OF CONTENTS

GENERAL INFORMATION	3
AFRCC ORGANIZATION/MISSION STATEMENT.....	4
TEN YEAR SYNOPSIS.....	5
INCIDENT/MISSION/SAVE SUMMARY.....	6
BEACON SUMMARY	7
BEACON INCIDENT/MISSION RESULTS	8
NON-AIRCRAFT SUMMARY	9-10
NON-AIRCRAFT MISSION RESULTS	11
AIRCRAFT SUMMARY.....	12
AIRCRAFT MISSION RESULTS.....	13
RADAR/CELL FORENSICS SUMMARY.....	14
SEARCH AND RESCUE UNIT DATA	15 - 18
BEACON REGISTRATION INFORMATION.....	18
AFRCC CONTACT INFO.....	20

GENERAL INFORMATION

MISSION

The Commander, Air Forces Northern, is the Inland Search and Rescue (SAR) Coordinator for the aeronautical Search and Rescue Region (SRR) corresponding to the continental US other than Alaska, also known as the Langley SRR. The Commander, Air Force Rescue Coordination Center (AFRCC), is designated as the SAR Mission Coordinator (SMC). The AFRCC seeks to encourage a cooperative SAR network and help coordinate assistance for persons in distress.

AUTHORITY

The AFRCC mission is derived from international treaty requirements in the Chicago Convention (ninth addition, 2006) and the International Aeronautical and Maritime Search and Rescue (IAMSAR) Manual. These requirements are satisfied by the U.S. via the National Search and Rescue Plan (NSP) and the National Search and Rescue Supplement (NSS) to the IAMSAR Manual. The NSP and NSS provide the United States a national plan for coordinating SAR services to meet our domestic needs and international commitments. Further implementation guidance is provided in Department of Defense Instruction 3003.01, *Support to Civil Search and Rescue* and Air Force Policy Directive 10-45, *Air Force Support to Civil Search and Rescue*.

TASKING AUTHORITY

The AFRCC has no command or control tasking authority. The AFRCC supports domestic civil authorities by coordinating Department of Defense (DoD) and other federal SAR services to the fullest extent practicable on a non-interference basis with the unit's primary duties, according to applicable national directives, plans, guidelines, and agreements. No DoD or other federal resources are assigned or tasked for the aeronautical civil SAR mission.

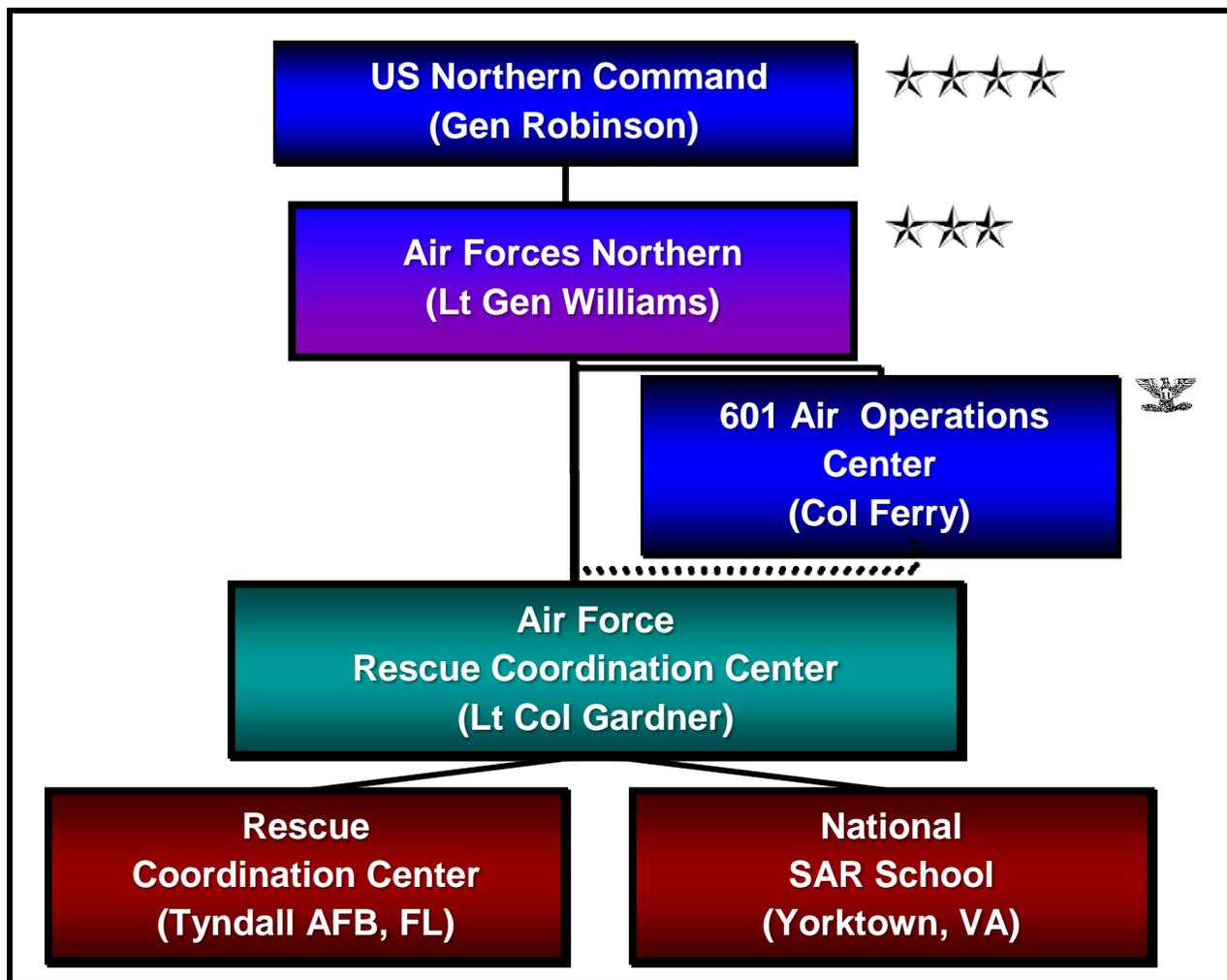
RESPONSIBILITIES

When managing SAR operations, the AFRCC has the full operational authority of the Inland SAR Coordinator.

Specific responsibilities include:

- Coordinating SAR operations involving missing/overdue general aviation (GA) flights, interstate aircraft flights, DoD aircraft, and commercial aircraft.
- Coordinating SAR operations in response to Emergency Beacon Alerts. The AFRCC receives all COSPAS-SARSAT emergency beacon distress signals registered to the United States or those originating from within its SRR. The AFRCC investigates the signal in coordination with federal, state, and local officials and determines the required type and scope of response.
- Coordinating federal SAR capabilities (both Aeronautical and Inland) at the request of other designated Rescue Control Centers (RCC), Federal and State SAR coordinators in support of their civil SAR operations. Through SAR Agreements with other SAR Coordinators (SCs) and their SMCs, the AFRCC may be a coordinating authority for specific SAR events outside the Langley SRR. These events include mercy, patient transport, search, rescue, and search and rescue unit (SRU) transport.

AFRCC ORGANIZATION



AFRCC MISSION STATEMENT

To save lives by providing expert coordination capability, while fostering cooperation, and providing first responder education in support the National Search and Rescue Plan.

TEN YEAR SYNOPSIS

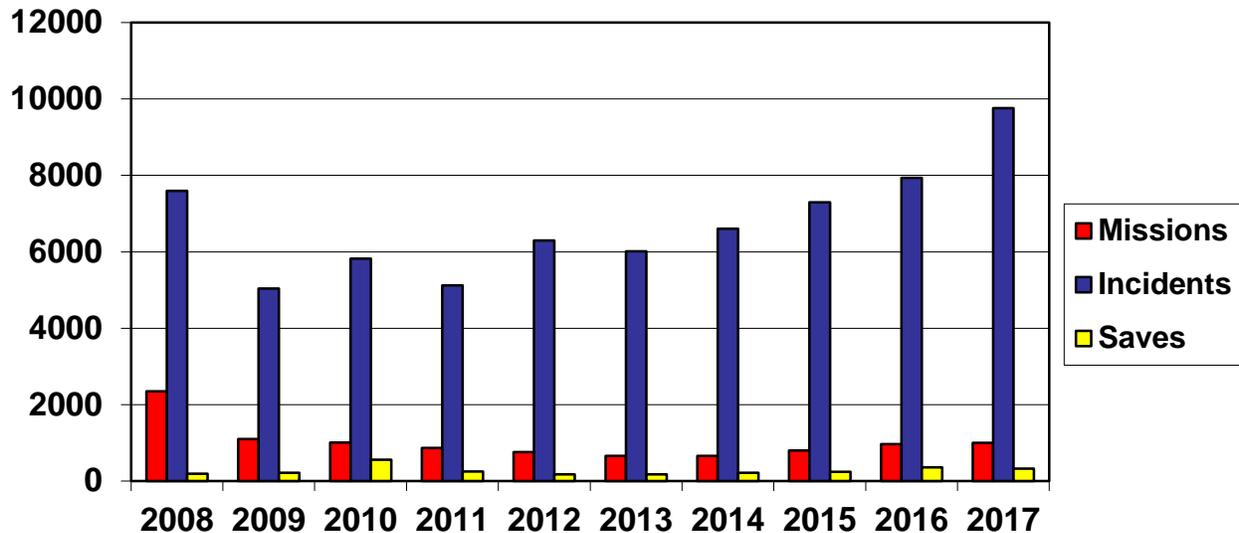
The AFRCC's yearly activity table illustrates the unit's total operational workload (missions, incidents and saves) over the past ten years.

MISSION: A SAR operation that requires the activation of federal asset(s) in order to reach a resolution. Note that all missions are also incidents.

INCIDENT: A SAR investigative operation by the AFRCC, conducted without deploying a SRU.

SAVE: An objective was in a distress situation, could not effect a self-recovery, and was recovered alive.

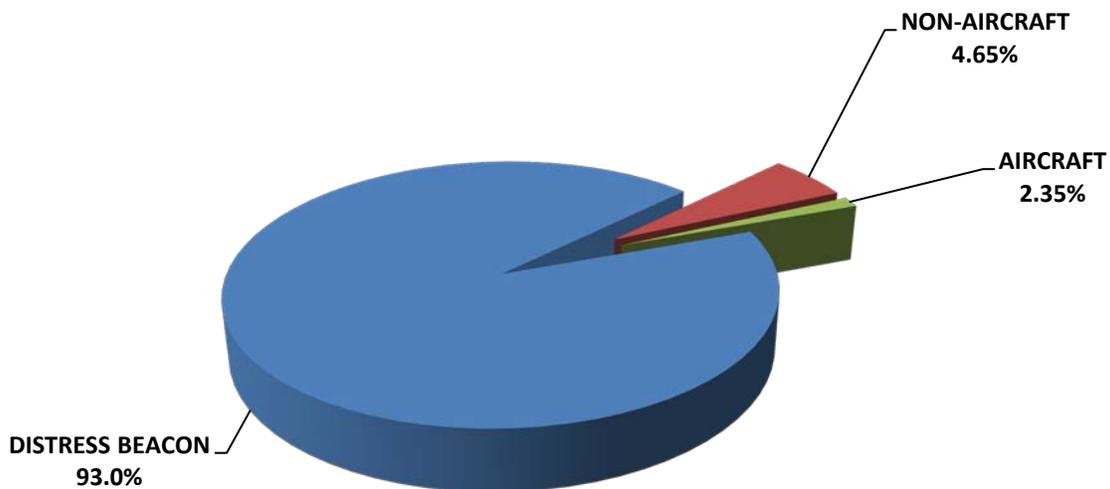
Year	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Missions	2344	1100	1004	866	755	660	654	797	969	997
Incidents	7595	4179	5823	5120	6299	6010	6603	7293	7936	9762
Saves	190	214	561	245	172	171	212	244	354	323



INCIDENT/MISSION/SAVE SUMMARY

The incident/mission/save summary identifies the number of distress beacon incidents, non-aircraft incidents, aircraft incidents, number of missions and the number of saves the AFRCC coordinated during 2017.

Through telephone and internet investigations, the AFRCC resolved 8,765 (90%) of the 9,762 incidents without expending federal resources, saving approximately \$10 million dollars and 631,080 work hours. The AFRCC coordinated 997 missions resulting in 323 lives saved.

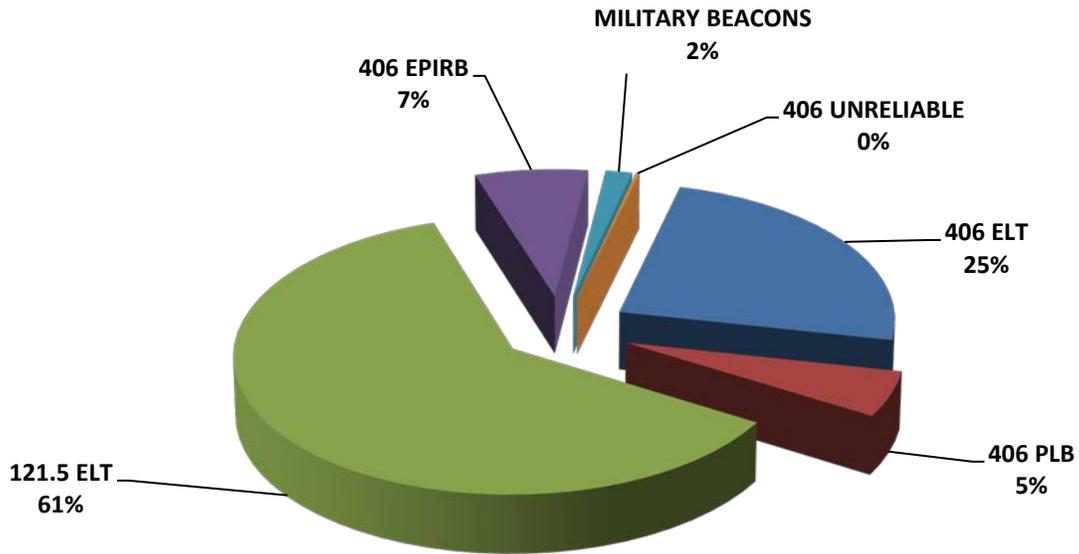


NUMBER OF INCIDENTS

SUMMARY	INCIDENTS	MISSIONS	SAVES
Distress Beacon Incidents	9083	431	56
Non-Aircraft Incidents	556	473	258
Aircraft Incidents	123	90	9
Total	9762	994	323

BEACON SUMMARY

During 2017, the AFRCC investigated numerous beacon incidents. This chart and corresponding table indicate the type of beacons and number of incidents involving federal assets (missions) and the resulting lives saved.



BEACON MISSION TYPES

TYPE	INCIDENTS ¹	MISSIONS	SAVES
406 ELT	6002	105	5
406 PLB	626	23	47
406 – Unreliable	110	1	0
121.5 ELT	491	264	4
406 EPIRB	443	30	0
Military Beacons	1407	7	0

Note 1: 1383 beacons were coordinated with overseas agencies in more than 50 countries.

BEACON INCIDENT/MISSION RESULTS

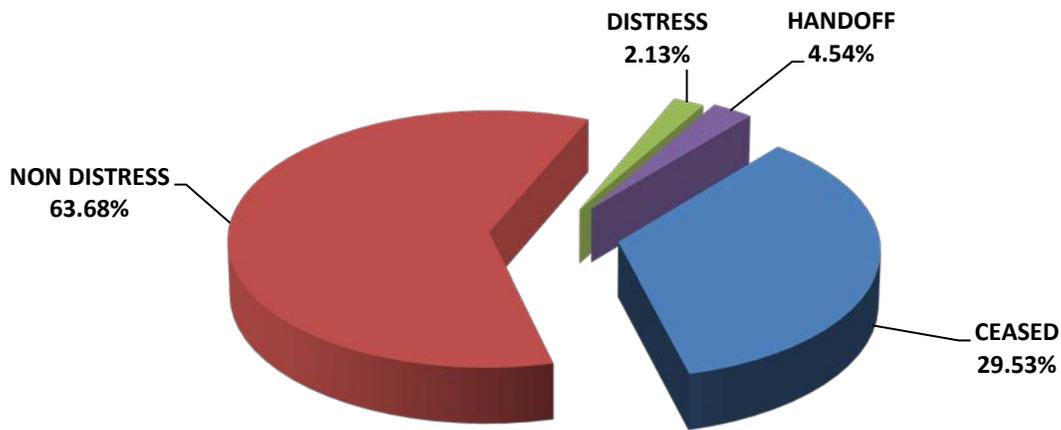
This chart and corresponding table indicate the results of all distress beacon incidents coordinated by the AFRCC during 2017.

NON-DISTRESS: Upon investigation it was revealed that there was not an actual distress situation, e.g. accidental activation, or improper testing.

HAND-OFF: The incident/mission was passed to another Search and Rescue Region/Agency.

CEASED: The beacon was no longer picked up by the source(s) that originally heard the signal (SARSAT, aircraft, ground station), prior to investigative resolution.

DISTRESS: Upon investigation it was revealed that the beacon activation was caused by an actual distress situation.



BEACON INCIDENTS

RESULT	NUMBER
Non Distress	5407
Ceased	3133
Handoff	245
Distress	185

NON-AIRCRAFT SUMMARY

In 2017 the AFRCC prosecuted several different types of Non-Aircraft related incidents. This chart and corresponding table break down the various types and number of missions involving federal assets and the resulting lives saved.

MISSING PERSON/BOAT/VEHICLE: The search for a person or persons/boat/vehicle, whose location is not known.

RESCUE: The extraction of a person or persons in distress from a known location.

MASS RESCUE: SAR services characterized by the need for immediate response to large numbers of persons in distress, such that the capabilities normally available to SAR authorities are inadequate.

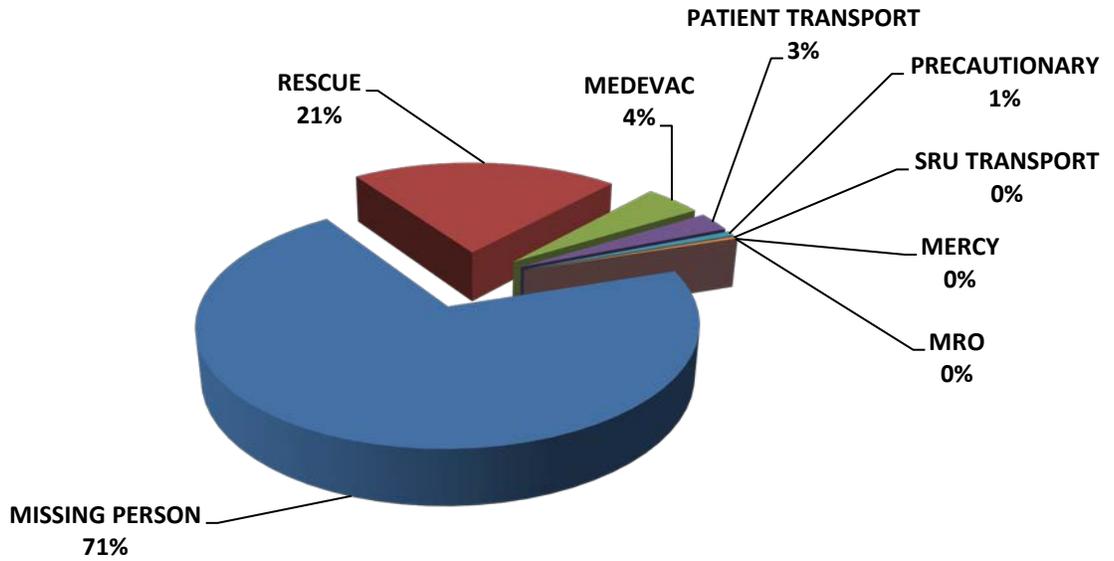
MEDEVAC: Evacuation of persons for medical reasons and hospital-to-hospital patient transfer.

MERCY: Delivery/transportation of life saving vital materials (organs, blood, etc.).

PRECAUTIONARY: Pre-positioning of SAR forces for use during a scheduled activity where the potential for SAR is high, such as air shows.

SRU TRANSPORT: Transportation for the Search and Rescue Unit to and/or from a mission location.

NON-AIRCRAFT SUMMARY CONTINUED

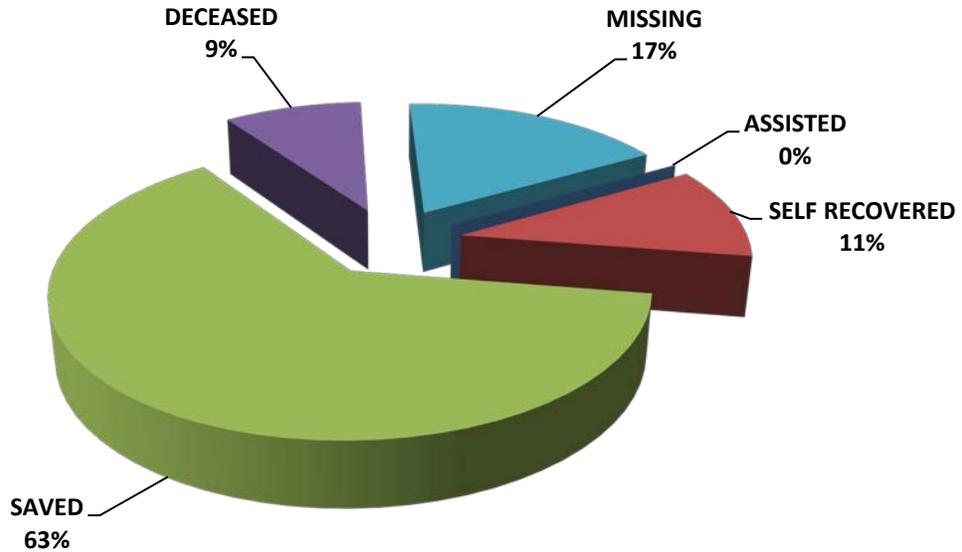


NON-AIRCRAFT MISSIONS

TYPE	INCIDENTS	MISSIONS	SAVES
Missing Person/Boat/Vehicle	392	354	122
Rescue	118	91	110
MEDEVAC	25	16	13
Mercy	0	0	0
SRU Transport	2	0	0
Mass Rescue	0	0	0
Patient Transport	15	12	13
Precautionary	4	4	0

NON-AIRCRAFT MISSION RESULTS

This chart and corresponding table indicate mission results for non-aircraft incidents prosecuted by the AFRCC in 2017.



NON-AIRCRAFT SAVES

RESULT	INDIVIDUALS
Saved	221
Missing	61
Deceased	32
Assisted	0
Self-Recovered	38

AIRCRAFT SUMMARY

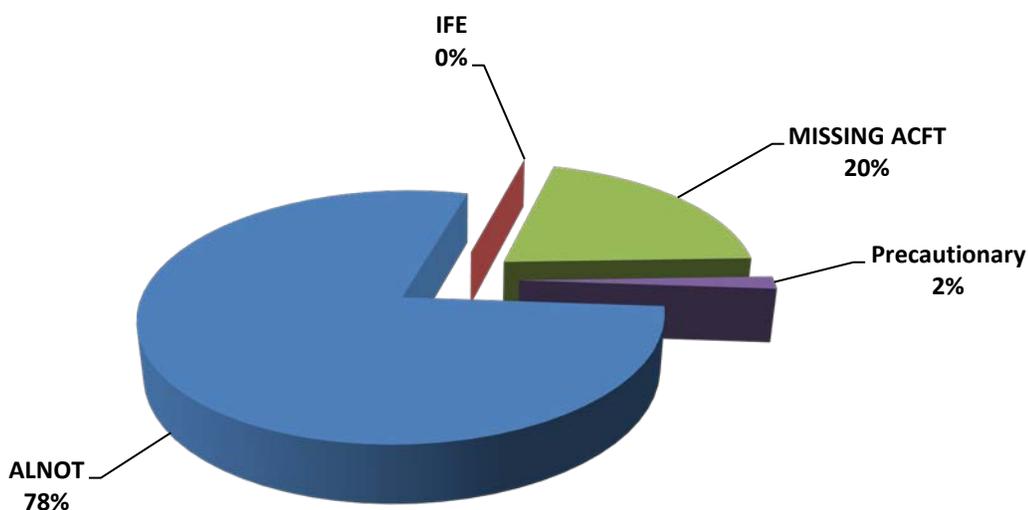
This chart and corresponding table shows the types of aircraft incidents prosecuted by the AFRCC in 2017, the number of incidents overall, missions involving federal assets, and lives saved.

MISSING AIRCRAFT: The investigation of a missing or overdue aircraft.

ALNOT: An Alert Notice issued by the FAA for overdue aircraft requiring action by the AFRCC.

IFE: In Flight Emergency – a reported emergency involving an aircraft in flight.

PRECAUTIONARY: Pre-positioning of SAR forces for use during a scheduled activity where the potential for SAR is high, such as air shows.

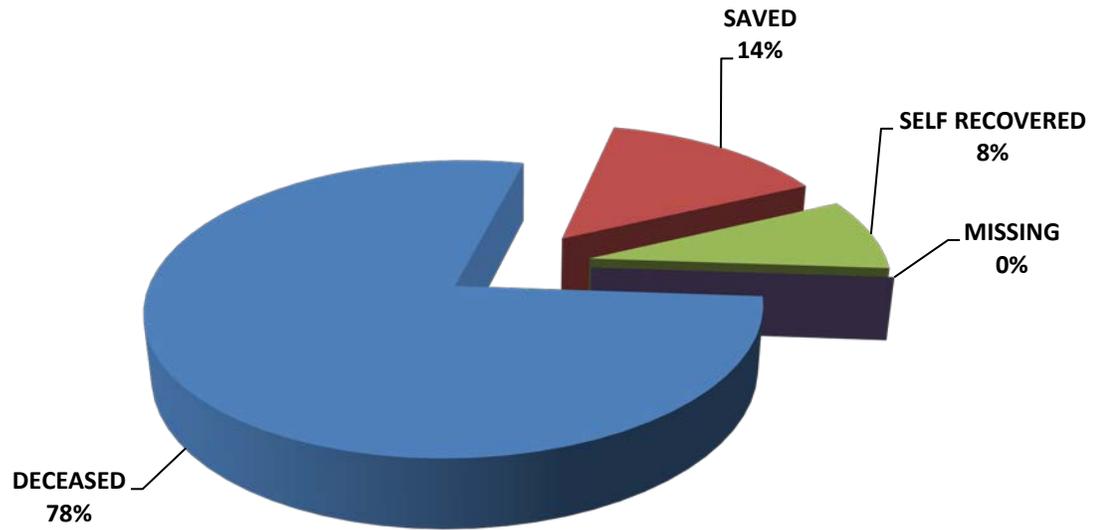


AIRCRAFT INCIDENTS

TYPE	INCIDENTS	MISSIONS	SAVES
ALNOT	96	70	8
IFE	0	0	0
Missing Aircraft	25	18	1
Precautionary	2	2	0

AIRCRAFT MISSION RESULTS

This chart and corresponding table indicate mission results for aircraft related incidents prosecuted by the AFRCC in 2017.

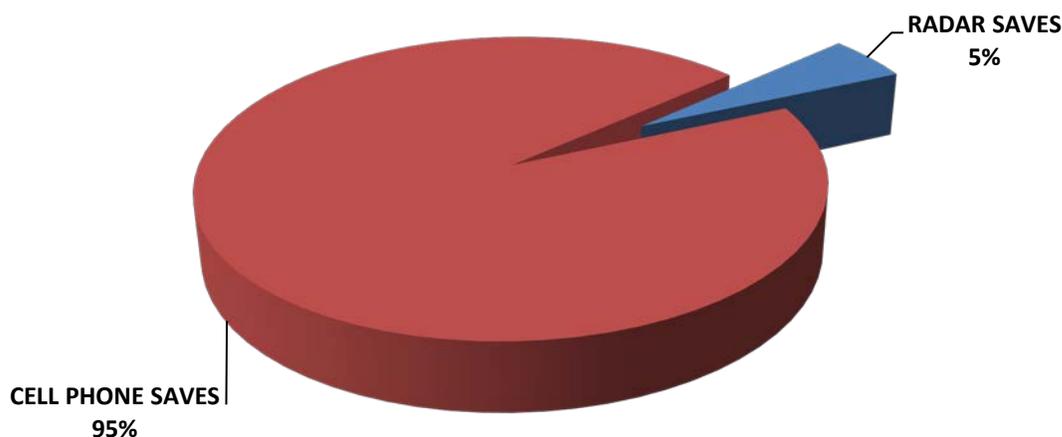


MISSION RESULTS

RESULT	INDIVIDUALS
Saved	7
Missing	0
Deceased	38
Self-Recovered	4

RADAR AND CELL PHONE FORENSICS

This chart and corresponding table indicate the number of missions in which radar and/or cell phone forensics were involved and the number of corresponding lives saved. Often both types of forensics are used on a single mission.



RADAR AND CELL FORENSICS

TYPE	MISSIONS	SAVES
Radar Forensics	75	6
Cell Forensics	294	94

The AFRCC is authorized to request cell phone forensics IAW 18 U.S.C. § 2702 (b) (8)

- § 2702. Voluntary disclosure of customer communications or records
- (b) Exceptions for disclosure of communications.-- A provider described in subsection (a) may divulge the contents of a communication--
- (8) To a Federal, State, or local governmental entity, if the provider, in good faith, believes that an emergency involving danger of death or serious physical injury to any person requires disclosure without delay of communications relating to the emergency.

SEARCH AND RESCUE UNIT (SRU) MISSION

The total number of missions by SRU is determined by extensive data mining and may be different than what each SRU reports internally. The totals on this page may be higher than the actual annual number due to multiple SRUs being involved in the same mission.

COAST GUARD		
SRU NAME	MISSIONS	SAVES
CGAS ATLANTIC CITY		
CGAS ASTORIA	5	4
CGAS CAPE COD	1	
CGAS COLUMBIA RIVER	1	2
CGAS CORPUS CHRISTI	1	
CGAS NORTH BEND	1	1
CGAS PORT ANGELES	4	3
CGAS SAN FRANCISCO	1	
CGAS SAULT SAINTE MARIE		
CGAS TRAVERSE CITY	4	1
USCG TOTAL	18	11
ARMY (AD/RESERVE)		
SRU NAME	MISSIONS	SAVES
16 COMBAT ACTION BRIGADE	1	1
YAKIMA TRAINING CENTER	13	14
BRAVO COMPANY 1-135th	1	1
USA TOTAL	15	16
ARMY NATIONAL GUARD		
SRU NAME	MISSIONS	SAVES
HAATS	18	21
66th TAC	1	
AASF BOISE	3	3
AASF BUCKLEY	5	3
AASF BURLINGTON	2	
AASF BANGOR	4	2
AASF CHEYENNE	3	2
AASF MATHER	1	1
AASF PAPAGO	1	1
AASF RENO	1	
AASF WEST BEND		
AASF SALT LAKE CITY	1	
DET 2-211	1	
1-168th AVIATION REGIMENT	1	
ARNG TOTAL	42	33

NAVY		
SRU NAME	MISSIONS	SAVES
NAS WHIDBEY ISLAND	54	63
NAS FALLON	7	7
NAS LEMOORE	3	1
USN TOTAL	64	71

AIR FORCE (AD/RESERVE)		
SRU NAME	MISSIONS	SAVES
15th SOS		
36th RQF		
37th HS		
38th RQS		
40th HF	5	8
54th HS	1	7
55th RQS	1	1
58th SOW		
66th RQS	1	1
71st RQS		
79th RQS		
106th RQW	1	2
304th RQS	5	2
305th RQS	1	1
563rd RQS		
920th RQW	3	3
USAF TOTAL	18	25

AIR NATIONAL GUARD		
SRU NAME	MISSIONS	SAVES
129th RQW	3	2
ANG TOTAL	3	2

MARINES		
SRU NAME	MISSIONS	SAVES
MCAS YUMA	6	9
USMC TOTAL	6	9

COMBAT SUPPORT AGENCY		
SRU NAME	MISSIONS	SAVES
National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency		
CSA TOTAL	0	0

CIVIL AIR PATROL		
SRU NAME	MISSIONS	SAVES
NHQ CAP	369	100

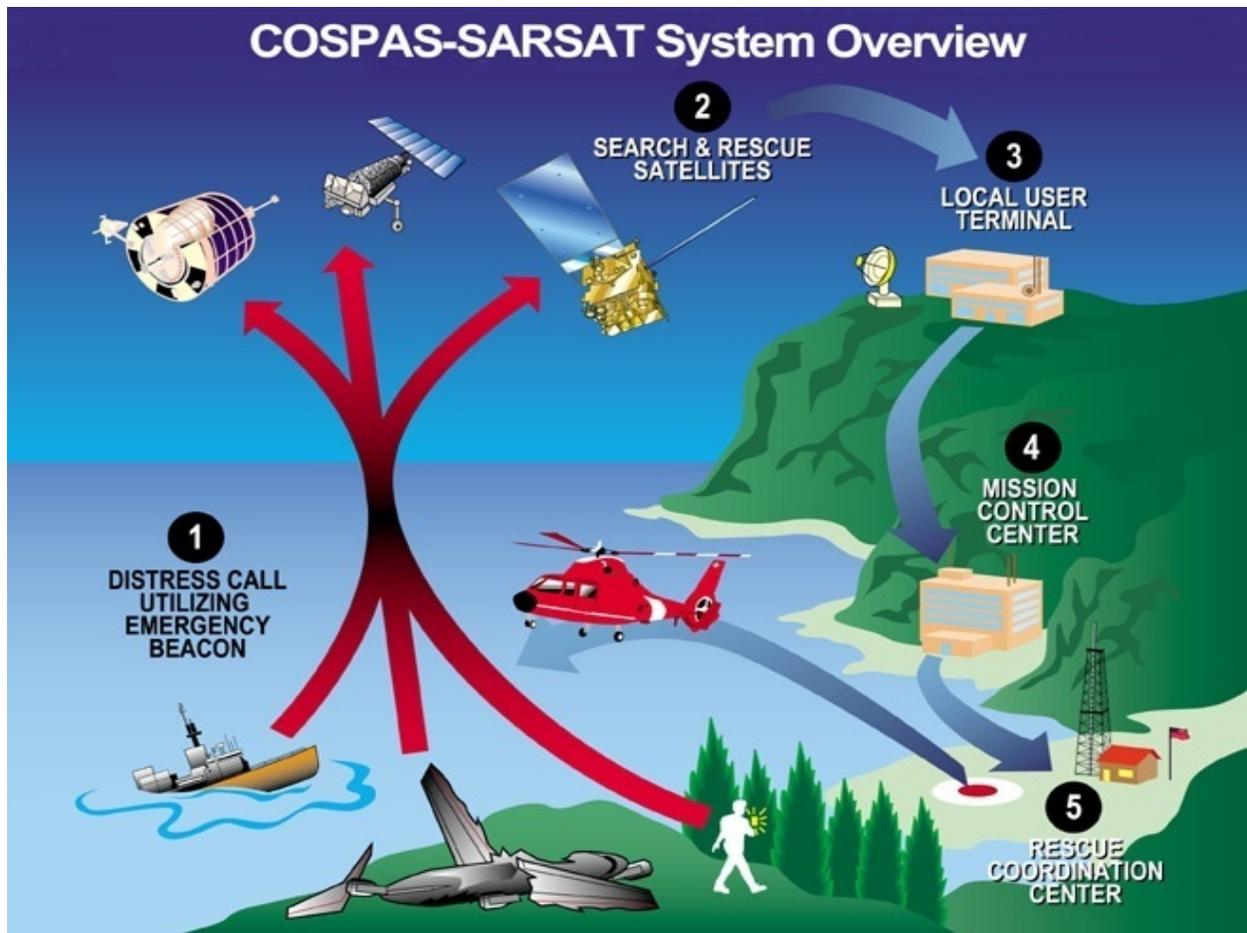
AL CAP	9	6
AK CAP	0	0
AZ CAP	19	10
AR CAP	7	3
CA CAP	54	46
CO CAP	9	7
CT CAP	4	4
DE CAP	1	0
FL CAP	73	47
GA CAP	16	9
HI CAP	0	0
ID CAP	7	3
IL CAP	8	4
IN CAP	6	4
IA CAP	0	0
KS CAP	9	9
KY CAP	6	1
LA CAP	6	4
ME CAP	2	1
MD CAP	6	4
MA CAP	9	4
MI CAP	8	5
MN CAP	9	5
MS CAP	5	1
MO CAP	3	1
MT CAP	0	0
NE CAP	1	1
NV CAP	7	2
NH CAP	1	1
NM CAP	5	1
NJ CAP	10	8
NY CAP	13	7
NC CAP	15	12
ND CAP	5	3
OH CAP	9	7
OK CAP	8	4
OR CAP	13	7
PA CAP	15	11
RI CAP	0	0
SC CAP	9	9
SD CAP	4	3

TN CAP	7	5
TX CAP	36	30
UT CAP	9	5
VT CAP	1	1
VA CAP	10	6
WA CAP	4	3
WV CAP	2	1
WI CAP	10	16
WY CAP	4	1
PR CAP	1	0
CAP Total	884	422
ALL SRUs TOTAL	1050	814

**REMEMBER TO REGISTER YOUR 406 MHz BEACON &
UPDATE IT ANYTIME A CHANGE IS MADE!**

HELP US SAVE LIVES!

<https://beaconregistration.noaa.gov>



For more information about the AFRCC annual report or if you have questions or concerns addressing the information in this product, please contact the AFRCC at afcc.console@us.af.mil or at 850-283-5129.



AIR FORCE RESCUE COORDINATION CENTER
650 Florida Avenue, Stop 73
Tyndall Air Force Base, Florida 32403
EMERGENCIES ONLY: Commercial 850-283-5955 / DSN 523-5955
Office: Commercial 850-283-5129 / DSN 523-5129 / FAX 850-283-5101
afrc.console@us.af.mil

<http://www.1af.acc.af.mil/units/afrc/>

"These Things We Do ... That Others May Live"