

71-year old Massachusetts hiker falls from 50' cliff in New Hampshire

"On July 9th, 2022, the Alton Fire Department was called for an injured hiker on the Precipice path in the Belknap range trail system.

At approximately 3:45pm, Harvey Weener, 71, of Newburyport, was rock climbing when he fell down a gully and sustained injuries that left him unable to walk.

The duty crew was already working on an injured hiker on Mt. Major at the time of the call. The Gilmanton Fire Department was started for the additional call. Gilmanton responded, dispatch advised of a hiker who had fallen a significant distance down a hillside and suffered a head injury.

Gilmanton Fire Department requested additional manpower for the presumed carryout. Alton Rescue 1 responded as well as Lakes Region C1 to the staging area. Crews along with New Hampshire Fish and Game entered the woods and quickly determined this was going to be a technical rescue requiring ropes and rescue litter.

Additional crews entered the woods with the rope rescue equipment. Based on patient status and the extended extrication, a DHART helicopter was requested to a nearby location to fly the patient to the trauma center, Barnstead FD assisted with the landing zone. FD personnel trained specifically in rope rescue operations with the assistance of NH Fish and Game and Lakes Region Search and Rescue were able to successfully extricate and transport the individual to the helicopter for transport to the hospital.

We continue to see a significant number of simultaneous calls

in our community, we are thankful for all of our mutual aid partners who come together to complete the missions efficiently and professionally.” -Alton N.H. Fire Department.



Alton N.H. Fire Department photo.