

Search and Rescue rope team earns certification

By SUZY STERNER
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PRIEST LAKE — Hanging out takes on new meaning for 14 members of Priest Lake Search and Rescue who are now certified technicians for high and low angle rope rescues.

The ropes rescue unit is now trained at the highest level, follow-

ing their second three-day training session at Granite Pass from Oct. 1-3.

The unit is qualified to make rescues on any terrain or angle, including steep inclines and vertical drops.

"This gives a new capability for first responder rescue for Bonner County," said Mike Nielsen. PLSAR team leader.

But it didn't come cheap. The

course was \$2,100 and the group spent \$8,000 on equipment.

They're not done yet. Nielsen said \$2,000 of equipment is still needed. He added that the group would also like to raise money to conduct a high-line training class and to develop an ice rescue technical team.

For information on becoming a volunteer or to make a donation call Nielsen at 443-6603.

