



# PRESS RELEASE

An Internationally Accredited Agency



Paul Fontana, Chief  
**Golden Gate Division, Air Operations Unit**  
3500 Airport Road, Napa CA 94558

Contact: Officer James Andrews  
707-257-0103  
[30Media@chp.ca.gov](mailto:30Media@chp.ca.gov)

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

August 4, 2015

## **CHP helicopter hoist rescue of injured mountain biker**

**China Camp State Park, Marin County, CA** - On August 4, 2015 at approximately 1927 hours, San Rafael Fire department requested the assistance of CHP Helicopter 32 (H-32) with an injured mountain biker within China Camp State Park. The rider, a 34 year old Marin resident, had been on a single track trail when he fell from his bike causing moderate injuries. H-32 was able to locate the injured biker due to a Good Samaritan that was able use a GPS app on her cell phone and relay those coordinates to rescuers. The trail was very steep and rugged and a hoist rescue was determined to be the best way to both insert rescuers and extricate the injured party. H-32 landed in a nearby field at the Fire Department command post and configured for the hoist while loading a fire department medic aboard the helicopter. While hovering approximately 75 feet above the ground, H-32 hoisted the fire medic to the scene and the fire medic assessed and packaged the biker for hoist rescue. H-32 returned and hoisted the injured biker up to the helicopter and transported him to the command post to an awaiting San Rafael Fire ambulance for transport to a local hospital.

The California Highway Patrol Golden Gate Division Air Operations unit, based at the Napa County Airport, operates four aircraft (two airplanes and two helicopters) which patrol approximately 6,923 square miles that incorporates a residential population of more than 7 million people. The helicopter is routinely staffed with a CHP Officer/Pilot and a CHP Officer/Paramedic. The helicopter is equipped with a rescue hoist that has 165 feet of rescue cable that can lift patients and/or rescuers, that can weigh up to 450 pounds, into the helicopter.

**## END ##**



@CHPGoldenGate  
@CHP\_GoldenGate  
[facebook.com/CHPGoldenGate](https://facebook.com/CHPGoldenGate)