

Night search rescues 2 from mountains

Women treated for hypothermia

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DEMING, N.M. (KRQE) - Search teams aided by a Border Patrol helicopter Friday rescued two women who spent the night stranded on a mountainside in southwestern New Mexico.

A spokesman for New Mexico State Police Search and Rescue said rescuers from volunteer organizations lowered the two down a 60-foot cliff shortly after daylight to a location where the helicopter could pick them up. Both were suffering from hypothermia, the spokesman said.

A group of four people between the ages of 18 and 21 were reported to have gone hiking in the Floridas southeast of Deming of Thursday. The two women became stranded in Spring Canyon, but their companions, a man and woman, were able to walk out and summon help.

Volunteers from the **Grant** and Luna county search-and-rescues teams and the **Organ Mountain Technical Rescue Squad** mobilized about 7 p.m. and were able to reach the women and help keep them warm during the night. The rescuers waited until daylight to lower the women down the steep and rocky terrain.

The stranded women were reported to have jackets, but one was dressed in shorts. They and their companions were treated at a Deming hospital. The overnight low in Deming was around freezing.

The names of the hikers have not been released.

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