

Possible Field Errors:

- 1) The group is itinerary Driven by the need to get to the resupply. This is exacerbated by an injured student.
- 2) The group demonstrated an inability to remain together and should NOT be trusted to remain together without direct supervision, especially since the lead instructor took the most reliable males with him. Essentially the group's human skills are inadequate to the task.
- 3) The instructors incorrectly assesses the heat challenge and it's associated risk. Students were unacclimatized due to a recent increase in environmental temperature and prone to heat stroke.
- 4) There was no communication with the main body of students or between instructors during the hike.

Possible Administrative Errors:

- 1) The program administrator failed to balance staff competency with the program design. Paring a new lead instructor with an new assistant instructor in a potentially severe environment is a poor administrative decision.
- 2) The instructors' training and/or assessment may have been inadequate. Additional training around heat illnesses is required.
- 3) There may be an itinerary driven culture where the lead was expected to get to the river to facilitate resupply.
- 4) The program may not be tracking incidents closely enough to see a prior trend.
- 5) Heat related LOPs may be inappropriate to the environment.

Best Possible Solution:

- 1) The group should remain together at the seep until the temperature drops and resume hiking in the early evening. When hiking the instructors should remain in lead/sweep positioning to keep group together. They will arrive at the resupply late and hungry.