



Far West Division Summer Board Meeting – August 3, 2013
Davis, California

AVALANCHE – Rob Morrow

PROGRAM STATUS REPORT TO THE FAR WEST DIVISION

August 2013 Summer Meeting

Goals:

- _To continue to build collaboration among avalanche instructors in the division
- _To continue building bridges with regional groups of avalanche instructors
- _To stretch the capability of the Region and Division avalanche program staff to support avalanche instructors and their course delivery

Accomplishments:

- _Four to six additional courses as compared to the past two years and greater student participation (Over 400 participated in Avalanche classes in FWD)
- _ESR is developing a program of a single classroom with multiple field locations
- _Improved course registration and reporting of annual avalanche refresher courses
- _Avalanche equipment purchases for course use. Southern California support for a beacon basin in collaboration with the regional avalanche center
- _Continuing education - Mammoth Avalanche Workshop December 2012

2013/2014 Coming Season

Goals:

- _To reach the 100% goal of IT participation in all avalanche courses
- _Level 2 courses scheduled for the Eastern Sierra and Southern California regions with the ESR course targeting backcountry skiers
- _Support instructor attendance of National Avalanche School, Phase 1 & Phase 2
Public Avalanche Awareness presentations in the Eastern Sierra and Southern California regions
- _To reach out to SAR groups to provide our course curriculum to their membership
- _To implement the full use of the 2008 Avalanche Instructor Manual curriculum
- _Continuing education - Mammoth Avalanche Workshop December 2013
- _Continuing education - Sierra Avalanche Center - One day Snow Science workshop, tba ~Nov '13

Plan:

- _Engage with Region Administrators and IT staff for effective program assessment & feedback to avalanche instructors
- _Mentor both candidate and current instructors to develop curriculum presentation materials and opportunities for avalanche instruction

Resources requested/needed to execute Plan -this season

- _Avalanche instructor dedication to excel in teaching avalanche courses
- _A sense of humor and a smile at the end of the day despite having to hike 800 vertical feet