



REPORT TO THE FAR WEST DIVISION  
**PROGRAM STATUS REPORT**  
*SEASON —FWD 2013 Winter Meeting*

**PROGRAM:** Nordic

**FROM:** Mike Kelly

**DATE:** 3/1/2013

**Limit report to 1 page — do not send as PDF — email to Secretary waits\_janice@cusdk8.org**

**SEASON HIGHLIGHTS — total classes — total participants**

There have been several changes in the Nordic program since the beginning of the season. We have a new patrol in the Southern California Region – San Gabriel Mountains Backcountry Ski Patrol – which is starting with five members.

Royal Gorge Cross Country Resort is under new management as the result of a change in ownership. The resort is now owned by a consortium of nonprofit conservation entities and managed by Sugar Bowl. The Royal Gorge operations manager installed by Sugar Bowl had not worked with nationals before and elected to go with all pros, That left the Royal Gorge Ski Patrol in limbo, but Patrol Representative Shari Wilson was able to make arrangements to start a new patrol at Tahoe Donner Cross Country and move most of the Royal Gorge patrollers to that venue, where they are thriving.

Tahoe Backcountry (ESR) [winner of the NSP 2011-2012 Outstanding Nordic Patrol Award], Pinecrest (MLR), and Mt. Pinos (SCR) are doing well. Mammoth Basin Nordic (SCR) is continuing to struggle. but appears to still have the backing of the local Forest Service.

**GOALS FOR COMING SEASON:**

**ISSUES and RESOLUTIONS:**

As for the remaining patrols, Lassen Volcanic, (NCR) Tahoe XC (ESR) and Lake Alpine Nordic (MLR) remain on life support and are effectively inoperable.

I don't see any improvement in the future for the patrols on life support without changes in management, and that is unlikely because there are no patrol rep candidates standing in line. I suggest giving these patrols an additional year to improve significantly. If they are unable to do so they should be disbanded as they are an embarrassment to the Nordic program and detract from the NSP relationship with public and private area management. To enforce this type of probation the Nordic Program Supervisor would need the backing of the FWD hieraschy. If the Nordic Program Supervisor's role is only to administer educational programs, these problems are unlikely to be resolved.

Submit to: Secretary Janice Waits