



REPORT TO THE FAR WEST DIVISION
PROGRAM STATUS REPORT
2013 – 2014 SEASON RECAP
REPORT DUE June 13, 2014

PROGRAM: Nordic

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SEASON HIGHLIGHTS — total classes — total participants

The Nordic education program is in a state of flux at the national level, with numerous changes in the structure of educational content and instructorships, all with a view toward improving the skill levels of patrollers. FWD is leading this effort and has provided most of the P&P changes. We have also developed two new Nordic courses and are working on an online training manual, which we hope to complete next season. FWD has generously agreed to provide preliminary funding for this manual in the amount of \$500. We had hoped to have a draft ready by the end of last season, but lack of sufficient snow in the backcountry made it impossible.

Here in the FWD we still have four healthy patrols, two building and two on life support. One other patrol on life support died a quiet death last season. The successful patrols all have good relationships with area management. Tahoe Donner Nordic, which moved over from Royal Gorge two seasons ago, is now on solid footing with TD management and looking forward to adding new members. The healthy patrols all have candidates in the pipeline.

GOALS FOR COMING SEASON:

We hope to complete the online Nordic training manual and have it approved at the national level. We are also recertifying all Nordic instructors this year and introducing them to the new course material. We plan to hold an instructor recertification clinic in No. Cal. in September, and one in So. Cal. in November.

ISSUES and RESOLUTIONS:

The two patrols on life support continue to be a problem, and need to be dealt with by the regions (Mother Lode and Northern California) or FWD. Current PRs seem incapable of effecting necessary changes, or unwilling to make the necessary efforts. One of these patrols does not have any area management relationship, which creates potential legal problems.

I appreciate the financial support Bill and FWD have provided with the online skills manual. This effort could not be completed without such assistance. I am also looking forward to working with Bill Hummer, Tom Sherry and National Nordic Program Director Kevin Johnson to help clean up some P&P inconsistencies at the national level.

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