

## **AVALANCHE PROGRAM STATUS REPORT 2013/2014 Season**

**TO THE FAR WEST DIVISION** March 7, 2014

From: Robert Morrow, Avalanche Program Supervisor, Far West Division

### **Accomplishments:**

- \_Funded one patroller to attend the 2013 National Avalanche School (NAS Phase 1) in Snowbird, UT. These funds provided covered approximately 75 percent of registration fees for a Far West Division candidate avalanche instructor. -- **David Brown, NCal**
- \_Developed and published the avalanche course calendar in early October with collaboration from the region administrators and active avalanche instructors. Two challenges exist, a) forward planning by some instructors, b) poor early season precipitation led to the need to cancel several courses. Course calendar updated through the season.
- \_Offered a calendar of Level 1 for Rescue Personnel avalanche courses: Northern California (1 w/ 1 cancelation), Eastern Sierra (4 w/ 2 cancelations), Mother Lode (3), and Southern California (4). Level 2 course were scheduled for the Eastern Sierra (canceled) and Southern California. Multiple Avalanche Awareness courses were scheduled to foster public education and feeder courses in the Eastern Sierra and Southern California (3 and 6 courses, respectively). Seven patrol-based avalanche refreshers occurred this season.
- \_Nine of ten courses received IT oversight with feedback to individual instructors. Hat tips to those ITs that helped make this possible!
- \_December 2013 early season Continuing Education workshop at Mammoth Mtn.
- \_Spring 2014 season Continuing Education workshop in collaboration with the Sierra Avalanche Center is tentatively scheduled for mid- to late-April.
- \_Attend the National Avalanche Committee meeting scheduled for mid-April 2014.

## **2014/2015 Coming Season**

### **Goals:**

- \_To successfully roll out the new avalanche instructor manual. Regionally based CE events will be scheduled to meet with instructors and discuss updated course curriculum, essential content, and activities. A follow-up discussion of instructor knowledge, presentation materials, and teaching methods.
- \_Continued division reimbursement of AAA membership of the most active teaching instructors.

### **PROGRAM STATUS REPORT TO THE FAR WEST DIVISION** March 7, 2014 Winter Division

- \_Continued collaboration with the Sierra Avalanche Center of a Tahoe Snow Science and Avalanche Workshop in the Tahoe region
- \_To achieve a 100 percent of all avalanche courses IT oversight and QA/QC performance measures.

### **Plan:**

- \_To hold continuing education seminars at Mammoth Mtn December 2014, Truckee/Lake Tahoe April 2015.
- \_To provide partial registration & lodging funding for avalanche instructors that attend ISSW, Banff, CA in October 2014.
- \_To continue an ongoing avalanche instructor toolbox of resources and materials available on a Google Drive that is available to all avalanche instructors. To potentially broaden access to