



REPORT TO THE FAR WEST DIVISION  
*Southern California* REGION STATUS REPORT  
**2018-2019 MID SEASON REPORT – due February 16, 2019**

**FROM:** Richard Roth

**DATE:** February 20, 2019

**1 page please (I can make it fit) NO PDF's — email to jrwaits40@gmail.com**

**SEASON HIGHLIGHTS TO DATE:** Overall great snow year to date. Rain in early Feb has caused road damage and loss of public access to Snow Valley and Baldy for various lengths of time and created significant difficulties getting to Big Bear. Mt. High has extended access to their mountain for all Snow Valley season pass holders until Snow Valley is able to open again. Snow Valley has been very helpful to the Region by taking on clinics that were originally scheduled at Big Bear.

**Registration/Membership:** 387

**Financial:** Good shape at the moment. Declining membership may have future impact on budget capabilities.

**Report on Patrols:**

**Big Bear:** Risk management concerns has led to a reassessment of Region events at the area. Some parameters have been put in place that we will try to negotiate for next season. Skier visits is at an all-time high with over 12,000 skiers per day on some weekends. Jack Pierce took over as patrol rep. in January. 6 candidates to finish this year. Hill Safety program going well.

**Snow Valley:** Has been extremely helpful in hosting Region events that had to be rescheduled from Big Bear. Opened 6 pack chair this season and dedicated a new patrol shack at the top. Severe rain early Feb. has led to road closure that has cut resort off from public access. No date yet announced on resolution.

**Baldy:** Great snow year compared to recent past. Flooding also closed the area to access for a few days. Reopening anticipated Feb. 21. New candidates doing well.

**Mt High:** High skier visits. Significant reduction in volunteer patrol. Region currently working with patrol management to improve situation.

**Waterman:** Planning on Opening Feb 23 for first time in several years.

**June Mt:** Huge snow year so far. Lots of Avy mitigation work. No active volunteer patrollers this season. Region working on getting June some help for next season.

**Winter SAR:** No report

**Buckhorn:** No report

**San Gabriel Back Country:** No report

**Lee Canyon:** New paid patrol management. Working through changes and challenges. Plenty of Snow.

**Alta Sierra:** 70" base. Brining on 4 EMT's through challenge course and 2 physician partners.

**Mt Pinos:** Good snow so far this year. Expanding relationships with Forest Service to help with traffic control and snow play management. MTR I on Feb 9/10 went well. Put on all cycle refresher for Region.

**Mammoth Basin:** Lot's of snow. Got late start due to government shutdown. Preparing patrol team to be the first responders for 2019 Biathlon event next month. Nordic OET Nordic Training in March.

**ISSUES and RESOLUTIONS:**

- 1. Access to Big Bear for Region sponsored events.** Developing a plan of action to address their concerns regarding liability and impact to the hill as well as education on how we think these programs benefit them directly.
- 2. Declining membership.** Region recruitment advisor has made great improvements in tracking new recruits and keeping in touch with them, so they don't fall through the cracks. Long range considering YAP program to foster interest in patrol among younger adults.
- 3. Advisor Burn Out** Working on cycling new people into positions. Will be looking at each program to find if there are ways to make delivery less of a burden. Looking at outsourcing some tasks.
- 4. June Mt Patrol** No active volunteers at the moment. We have some (3) recruits for next season and looking at ways to get secondary patrollers from other Region patrols to become involved.
- 5. Mt High Patrol** Significant drop in membership. Trying to come alongside current patrol rep to give any assistance possible in recruitment and retention.

**SEASON GOALS STATUS:**

1. Rewrite of Region bylaws and incorporation of Region Policies and Procedures. Draft of bylaws for board review should be ready by March 4, 2019 meeting. Policies and Procedure document to follow acceptance of new bylaws
2. Develop the Alumni program. Our Region has a significant amount of talent and resource that have converted to Alumni Status. We will be looking into ways to engage this group.
3. We are completing inventory of our OEC equipment and supplies so that we can purchase materials and equipment necessary to continue delivering quality OEC courses and refreshers.