

**Idaho Panhandle Avalanche Center  
Avalanche Advisory**

Contact: Kevin Davis (208) 265-6686, Ed Odegaard (208) 245-6209, or John Olson (208) 265-6635

This message is available by calling (208) 765-7323 or toll-free at 1-866-489-8664.

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This is Kevin Davis with the Idaho Panhandle Avalanche Center. Today is November 7, 2011. We will begin issuing regular avalanche advisories December 16<sup>th</sup>. The avalanche advisory will be issued every Friday at 7:30 AM with an outlook for Saturday and Sunday, same as always. The Friends of the Idaho Panhandle Avalanche Center is working on a new website so we'll definitely let you know when that is up and running.

Winter arrived to North Idaho in mid October at the highest elevations with the first accumulations of snow. On north aspects this snow has lingered and begun to accumulate while on southerly aspects the snow has come and gone. Driving over Cook's Pass in the Selkirk's last week we encountered consistent snow on the roads above 5,000 feet. Although the snow on the ground so far only amounts to about 6 inches at the most it is beginning to create the first layers of our snowpack. Think of how this layer is filling in the steeper terrain near the peaks and ridges where you like to travel. If this layer persists it will likely facet and become an early weak layer. While you're waiting for the snow make sure you save time to attend IPAC's free avalanche workshops. In Sandpoint, these classes are currently scheduled.

Nov. 8, **"Winter 2012 Forecast."**

Nov. 15 and Dec. 15, **"Beacon Practice Avy Gear Review."**

Jan. 10, **"Fire and Ice, Risk Assessment and Situational Awareness."**

Feb. 10, **"Ten Years of Avalanche Fatalities in North Idaho."**

**These classes are *free to the public* and will be held from 6-8PM in the Conference Room of the New Forest Service Building in Sandpoint, 1602 Ontario St., west of town on the way to Dover. Call Kevin Davis at 265-6686 or John Olson at 946-3378 if you have a group that is interested in attending. In the Silver Valley, contact Dan Frigard at 783-2130, and in St. Maries contact Ed Odegaard at 245-6209.**

The State of Idaho Parks and Recreation Department in cooperation with the IPNF-AC, is conducting (*Free*) avalanche workshops for snowmobilers this winter in Coeur d' Alene on November 16<sup>th</sup>, and January 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup>, Sandpoint January 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>. For more information go to the Idaho Parks and Recreation Department website at <http://parksandrecreation.idaho.gov/recreation/snowmobileeducation.aspx>, or call Marc Hildesheim, North Region Trails Specialist, at (208) 769-1511.

