

## **Survey of US avalanche centers**

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In the fall of 2009 I became interested in when offices are staffed by forecasters at the various centers and what time of day products are issued. In other words are the hours inhumane at all the centers? How much do product issuance times vary between the centers? I decided to survey the various centers regarding this and a few other topics. Later I learned of a similar survey compiled by Knox Williams in 1998. So I added some questions to my survey in order to update his work. My survey turned out to have more questions than I originally imagined; but later I thought of more questions I could have asked. So the results of this survey include various topics such as administration, pay, forecast area size, budget, hours of operation, weather stations, weather and avalanche product information, dissemination methods, product issuance days and times, avalanche education, and length of seasonal employment. I hope the results are informative and useful to any interested persons. I would like to emphasize that I did not undertake this survey in order to show any particular results. Rather the work was undertaken out of interest in similarities and differences between the various centers.