

THE ROLE OF CIVIL DEFENSE ORGANIZATIONS IN AVALANCHE RESCUE

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Abstract

The mandate of all civil defense organizations is to prepare plans for a disaster response, to ensure that people are trained for particular disasters, and to list resources available for the rescue effort. Advance planning is essential to disaster preparedness. Plans for an avalanche rescue should include a list of positions and duties for the rescue effort, a list of persons to fill these positions, and a list of available manpower and equipment resources. Other organizations which could provide help should be identified and included. Emergency planning programs, civil defense organizations, and search and rescue groups are found at all levels of government, but one should get to know and work with the people and groups in the local area. Joint training sessions for all persons and groups involved are highly recommended.