

## **THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN INTRODUCTORY SNOW HYDROLOGY FIELD METHODS AND LEVEL I AVALANCHE COURSES**

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**ABSTRACT:** The International Snow Science Workshop focuses primarily on avalanche and related issues. To be aware of safety concerns, those taking snowpack measurements for hydrology and water resources purposes need an understanding of avalanche processes. However, can a basic understanding of snow hydrology benefit those concerned with backcountry snow safety, specifically avalanche potential?

The Snow Hydrology Field Methods (WR575) course that is offered each spring at Colorado State University (CSU) introduces snow hydrology by providing an overview of processes, measurements and modeling. This paper presents an overview of each course and discusses whether the snow hydrology course supplements and/or complements introductory avalanche courses. Many of the students taking the CSU WR575 course have either taken or will take an introductory avalanche course. Sample data collected during the WR575 course and feedback from the students is also presented.

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