KNOWLEDGE RETENTION FROM LEVEL I AVALANCHE COURSES

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ABSTRACT: This study investigates the knowledge and skills that students from level I avalanche courses retain and implement within one year of course completion. The goals of the project are to: increase knowledge retention in avalanche students, identify strong and weak aspects of current avalanche courses, and investigate how knowledge gained in avalanche courses is implemented in field practice.

Two surveys are being designed for the study. Students will be given the first survey one week after completing a level I avalanche course. The first survey will focus on the level I avalanche class curriculum. The second survey will be distributed one year after course completion. This survey will focus on how knowledge gained in their avalanche class is implemented in field practice. This poster presents the motivation for the study and a first draft of both surveys. The final drafts of the surveys will be distributed to participating avalanche schools during the 2004/2005 winter. All avalanche educators are encouraged to sign up to participate in the survey and give feedback on existing drafts.

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