Backcountry Avalanche Safety Survey

Survey # ______

Please circle: M F Age ______

1) Where is/was your destination today?

2) Are you traveling alone? Yes No

If no, how many people are in your party? ______

3) Before traveling in the backcountry in the winter, how often do you access the avalanche advisory from an Avalanche Center? Please circle

Daily Every time I go out Sometimes when I go out Rarely Never

4) Did you access the avalanche advisory today? Please circle: Yes No

If so, how:

___ Telephone recording ___ Internet ___ Mobile App

___ Automated e-mail ___ Public radio

5) How would you like to hear about critical avalanche conditions? Choose all that apply:

___ website ___ text message ___ Twitter ___ telephone recording

___ radio ___ television ___ Facebook ___ exit gate signs

___ newspaper ___ highway signs Other: _________________________

6) Have you ever taken an avalanche safety course? Please circle: Yes No

If so, what level of course did you take? Please circle:

Awareness Course (1-3 hrs) 1 day avalanche course Level I Level II

Other: __________________________________________

If you have taken a course, how long has it been since your last formal avalanche training?

less than 1 year 1-5 years more than 5 years

7) If you have not taken a course, why not? Check all that apply

___Unaware of courses ___Intend to but haven't yet ___Doesn't apply to your activity

___Not offered in your location ___You ski with people that have taken courses ___Cost

Other: _________________________
8) What resources do you use for avalanche education, if any? Please check all that apply

___ Avalanche Course  ___ Books  ___ Online Tutorials  ___ Rely on experts in your party

Other: ________________________________________________________

9) What do you feel is more important: (circle one)

taking an avalanche course  having advanced equipment (eg. Avalung or Air Bag)

10) How much will an Air Bag improve survival if caught in an avalanche? Circle one

Not at all  Very little  Some effect  Greatly improve  Guarantee survival

11) How much will an Avalung improve survival if caught in an avalanche? Circle one

Not at all  Very little  Some effect  Greatly improve  Guarantee survival

12) What avalanche safety equipment have you brought with you today: Check all that apply:

___ Avalanche transceiver (Beacon)  ___ Cell phone with avalanche beacon application

___ Shovel  ___ Probe  ___ Avalung  ___ Avalanche Air Bag

13) If you do not own an Avalung or an Avalanche Air bag, why not? Check all that apply:

___ Cost  ___ Unnecessary for your activity  ___ Unsure of safety benefit

___ Too heavy to carry  Other: __________________________________________

14) How is the level of avalanche control different beyond the exit gates versus in the ski area boundary? Choose one:

___ No different

___ No avalanche control but safer than the backcountry because it has tracks

___ No avalanche control but the ski patrol will rescue me if something goes wrong

___ No avalanche control or ski patrol rescue services