

Rationale and Models for Transition of Management of Avalanche Rescues from the Three Stage Model to the Incident Command System

Dale Atkins and Drew Davis

Avalanche rescue driven by its seemingly unique requirements has evolved over time, independent of other incident management systems. This document and presentation will explore the evolution of modern avalanche rescue management systems, the evolution of the NIMS Incident Command System and the business case and rationale for migration of the management of a avalanche rescue from the current "three stage system" to a NIMS based Incident Command System model. The document will present and discuss a variety of practical management organization designs to support the management of avalanche rescue incidents at various levels of complexity.