



**VALLEY COUNTY
SEARCH AND RESCUE**

**WINTER
RESPONSE
TEAM**

2024/2025



SEASON COMPONENTS

Team Members

Season Timeline

Snowpack Summary

Training

Missions

Past Seasons Comparison

Highlights

Lessons Learned

Goals for 2025/2026 Season

TEAM MEMBERS

17 TOTAL TEAM MEMBERS

6 NEW MEMBERS

7 ON-TRAIL RESPONDERS

10 OFF-TRAIL RESPONDERS

12 HASTY AVALANCHE RESPONDERS

4 ON CALL MISSION COORDINATORS

3 VALIDATED AVALANCHE K9 TEAMS

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

4 FROM CASCADE

2 FROM DONNELLY

2 FROM MCCALL

Season Timeline

●
NOVEMBER 24TH

First Day
Mission Coordinator
On-Call Coverage

●
DECEMBER 14TH

First WRT All Levels
Team Training

●
DECEMBER 15TH

First Mission Request
Avalanche Fatality

●
JANUARY 2ND

#2 Coppet Creek
#3 Red Ridge
Both at 1900

●
JANUARY 3RD

#4 Johnson Creek
DECLINED

●
JANUARY 11TH

#5 Granite Lake

●
JANUARY 15TH

Off-Trail Team
Training

●
FEBRUARY 3RD

#6 Unknown location
North of McCall
#7 Lake Cascade
Both at 1630

●
FEBRUARY 8TH

#8 Tyndall Meadows
Fatality

●
FEBRUARY 16TH

#9 Four Corners

●
FEBRUARY 22ND

#10 Granite Lake

●
MARCH 29TH

#11 Anderson Creek

●
MAY 1ST

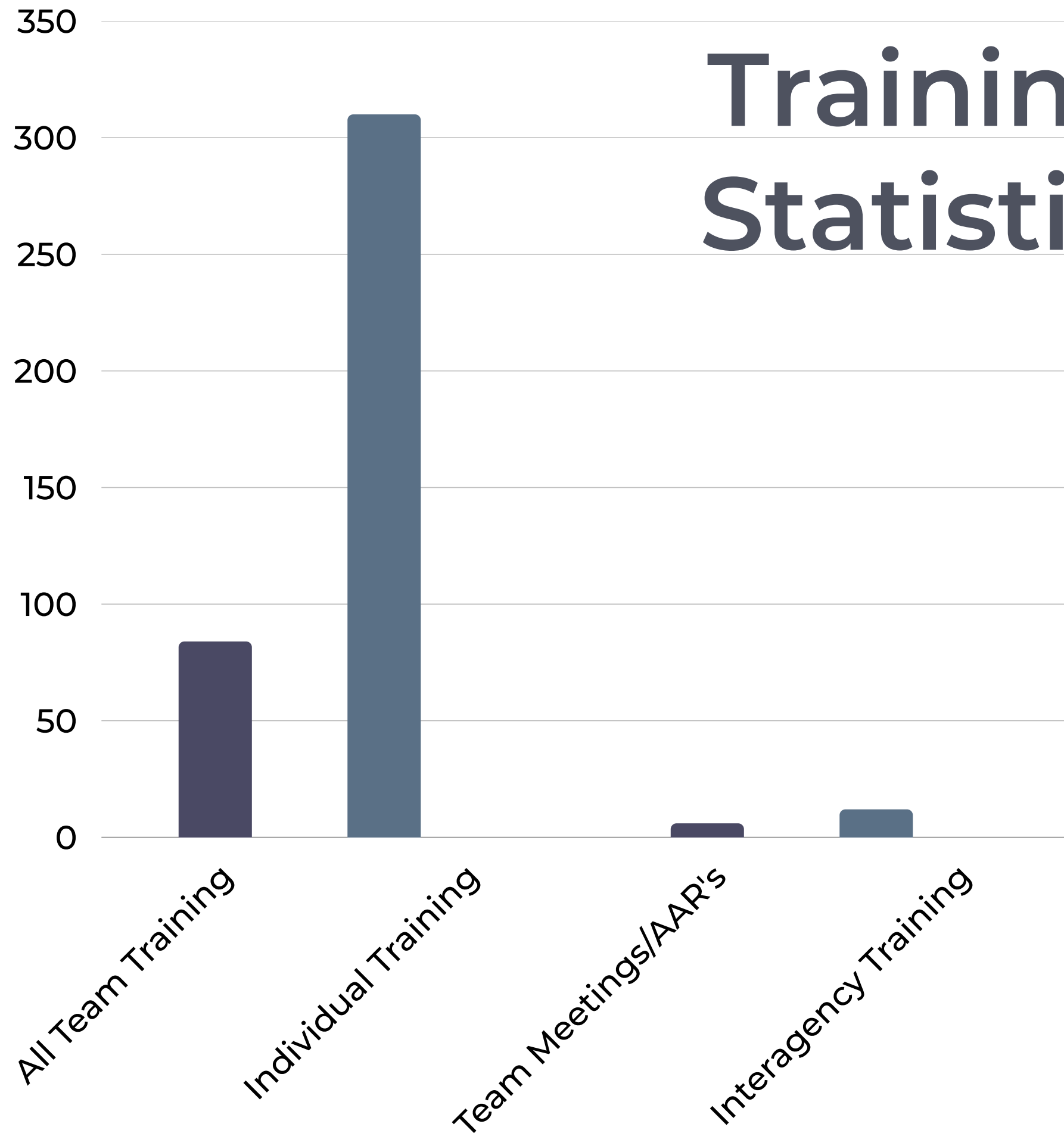
Last Day
Mission Coordinator
On Call Coverage

Avalanche Danger Tracking

Date	What is the highest danger rating today (at any elevation)?	Was there a watch, warning, or special advisory statement?	What is the primary problem type?	Date	What is the highest danger rating today (at any elevation)?	Was there a watch, warning, or special advisory statement?	What is the primary problem type?	Is there a persistent problem type (even if not primary problem)?	Were there avalanches reported today?	
12/14/2024	Considerable		Storm Slab	3/1/2025	Moderate		Wind Slab	No	no	
12/17/2024	Moderate!!!		Persistent Slab	3/4/2025	Low					
				3/6/2025	Low	2/4/2025	High	Persistent Slab	Yes	
				3/8/2025	Low					
12/19/2024	Moderate		Persistent Slab	3/11/2025	Low	2/6/2025	Considerable	persistent slab	yes	
12/21/2024	Moderate		Persistent Slab	3/13/2025	Considerable	2/8/2025	Considerable	persistent slab	yes	
12/23/2024	Low		Persistent Slab	3/15/2025	Considerable	2/11/2025	Moderate	Persistent Slab	Yes	
12/28/2024	Considerable		Wind Slab							
12/31/2024	Moderate		Wind Slab	3/16/2025	High	2/13/2025	Moderate	Persistent Slab	y	
1/4/2025	Considerable	Rain to 7500ft	Storm Slab	3/17/2025	High	2/15/2025	Moderate	Wind Slab	Yes	
1/7/2023	Moderate		Wind Slab			2/20/2025	Considerable	Dry Loose	no	
1/8/2025	Moderate		Dry Loose	3/18/2025	Considerable	2/22/2025	Moderate	Wind Slab	no	
1/11/2025	Moderate		Wind Slab	3/20/2025	Considerable	2/23/2025	High	YES!! Rain to 7500ft	Wet Loose	no
1/14/2025	Moderate		Dry Loose	3/22/2025	Considerable	2/24/2025	Considerable	Wet Loose	no	
1/18/2025	Low		None			2/25/2025	Moderate	Wind Slab	no	
1/23/2025	Low		None	3/25/2025	High	2/27/2025	Moderate	Wet Loose	no	
1/25/2025	Low		None							
1/28/2025	Low									
1/30/2025	Low									
				Date	What is the highest danger rating today (at any elevation)?	Was there a watch, warning, or special advisory statement?	What is the primary problem type?	Is there a persistent problem type (even if not primary problem)?	Were there avalanches reported today?	
				4/1/2025	Moderate		Wind Slab	no	no	
				4/3/2025	Low		None	No		
				4/8/2025	Moderate		Wet Loose	no		
				4/10/2025	Moderate		Wet Loose	no		
				4/12/2025	Moderate		Wet Loose	no		

- Takeaways from this season:
- 299" total snow with 40.7" of snow water equivalent
 - More HIGH danger rating than last season
 - Out of 50 forecasts, only 12 days had a persistent slab problem

Training Statistics



400 Total Hours



WRT Annual Refresher

TIERED TEAM RESPONSE

RISK ASSESMENT FORM

TWO PIECE AKJA

HYPO BAG



AVALANCHE RESCUE



RADIO COMMUNICATION

PATIENT TREATMENT

SITE MANAGEMENT/ICS

PATIENT PACKAGING/TRANSPORT

VACUUM SPINE BOARD



SEASONAL CHECKOFF WITH AIR ST LUKES



OFF-TRAIL TEAM RIDE DAY



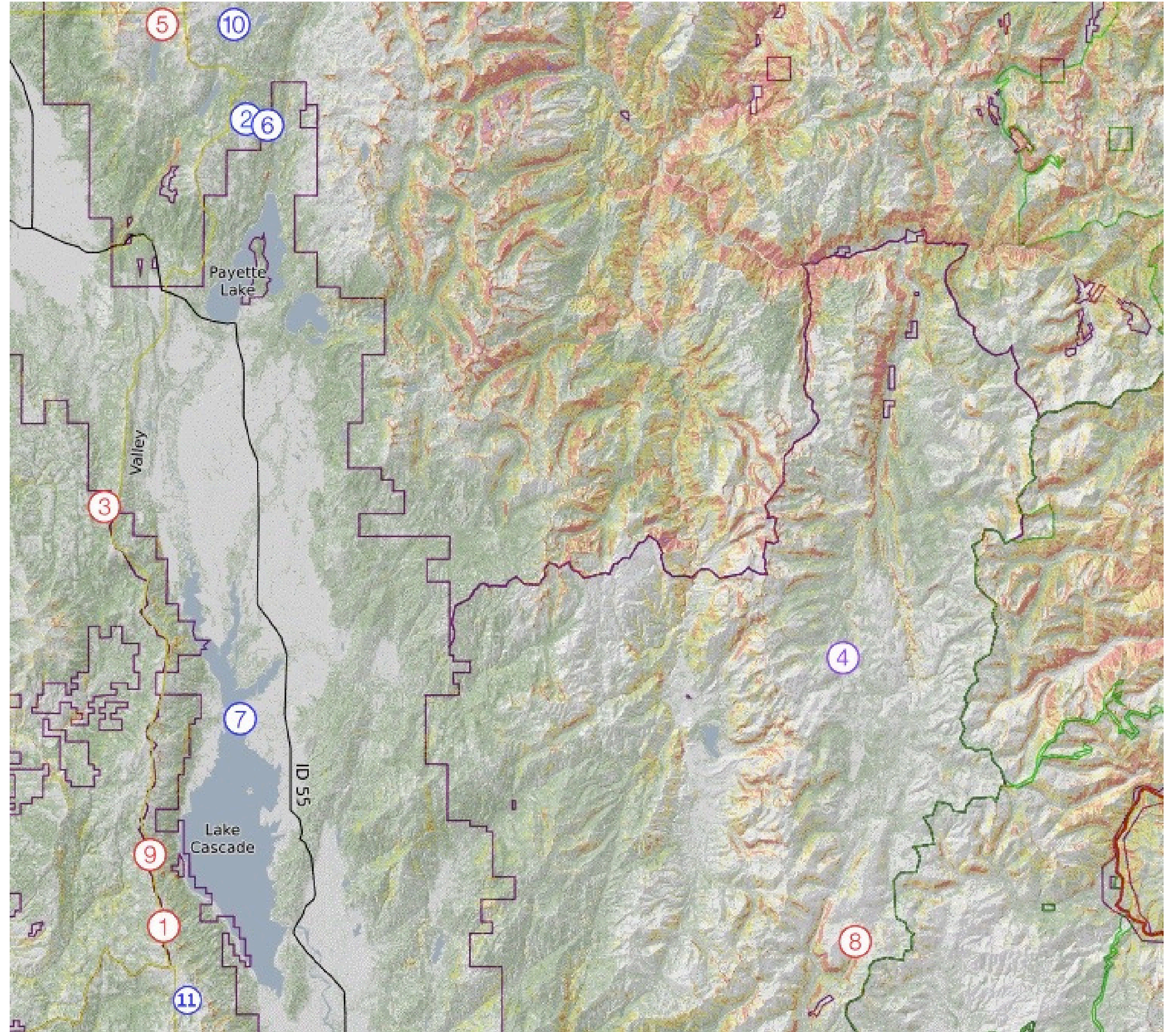
Lots of avalanche-specific K9 training locally and regionally!



Re-certified in Avalanche!

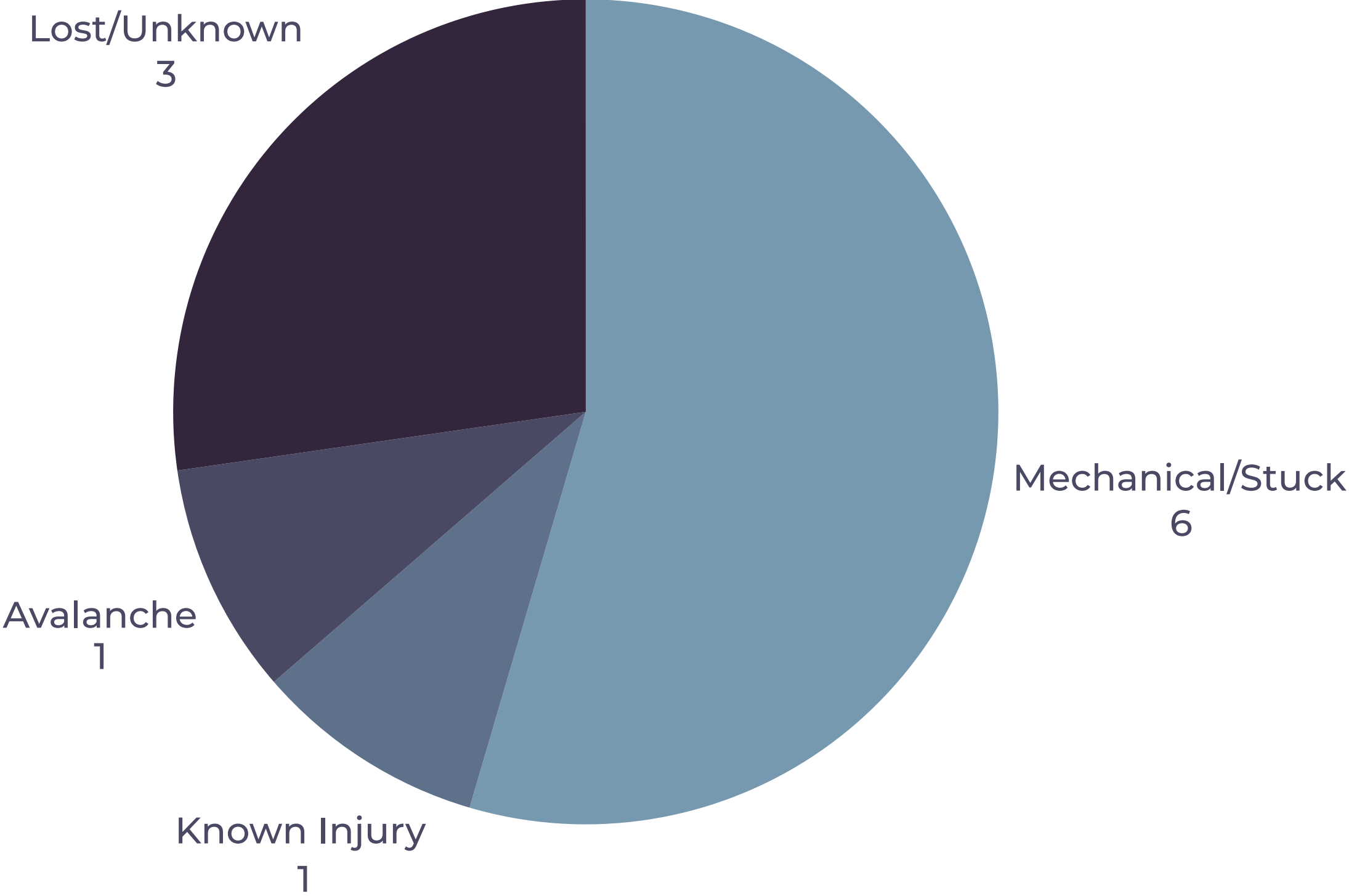


2024/2025 Missions

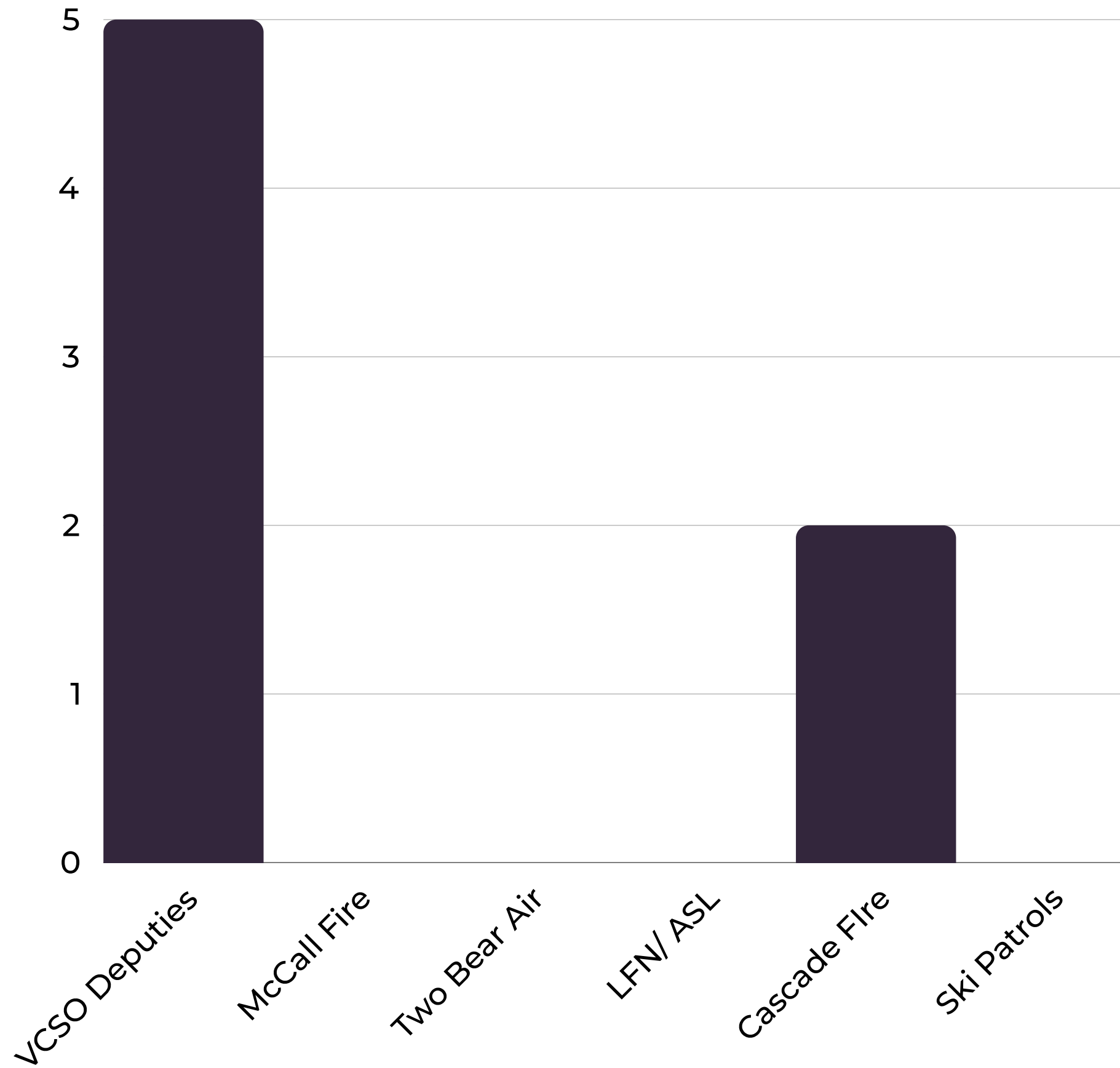


Mission Statistics

11 Mission Requests
1 Mission Declined
5 Stood down
5 Completed Missions



Out of 11 Mission Requests



Agency Interaction

Seasonal Comparison



Column 1	▼	#	22/23	▼	#	23/24	▼	#	24/25	▼
Team Members			8			14			17	
<i>On Trail</i>			0			6			5	
<i>Off Trail</i>			8			8			12	
<i>Avalanche</i>			7			7			14	
Total MC On Call Days		Dec 1 - May 1 = 149			Dec 17 - May 1 = 131			Nov 24 - May 1 = 157		
<i># of covered days</i>			134			131			157	
Total Trainig Hours			586			492			400	
<i>Team</i>			170			321			84	
<i>Personal</i>			368			171			310	
<i>Interagency</i>			32			240			12	
Deployment Requests			10			10			11	
<i>Accepted</i>			10			9			10	
<i>Completed</i>			7			5			5	
<i>Stood Down</i>			3			4			5	
<i>Declined</i>			0			1			1	
Response Type: On-trail			2			3			1	
<i>Off-trail</i>			8			7			9	
<i>Avalanche</i>			0			0			1	
Location: North Valley			10			5			4	
<i>Mid Valley</i>			0			5			1	
<i>South Valley</i>			0			0			6	

Misses :- (

Mobilization Time

- Continue to develop and use the On-Call Calendar
- Continue to reduce response times
- Actively recruit for a SOUTH Response Team

Communications

- Continue to work on Interagency Communications and with Dispatch

More Training!

- Injured vs non-injured extrication
- Ropes training and equipment
- All WRT training

Additional Gear Needed

- Trail sled needed for pulling victims out on the groomed road.
- Additional rescue gear for Winter specific operations (ex shovels)

Hits!

Safety

- Good risk management practices
- Requested appropriate people for the mission
- Managed avalanche hazard well

Gear!

We Got Gear!

- Akja for non motorized transport
- More medical gear for Hypothermic patients

Flow Chart/Checklists

- .-MC packet with checklist implemented this season.
- Avalanche Response Flow chart implemented this year

ICS Roles

- ICS roles went way more smoothly this year with SO and other interagency partners

Goals for 2025/2026 Winter Season



- **MOU WITH HELICOPTER SERVICE/MORE WRT MEMEBRS CHECKED OFF**
- **INTERAGENCY RESCUE COURSE**
- **ALL TEAM INTERAGENCY AVALANCHE SCENARIO**
- **MONTHLY TEAM TRAINING**
- **GROWING THE TEAM**
- **COMMUNICATIONS**



BERGEN RETIREMENT



Questions? Comments?

