

United States Department of Agriculture



Natural Resources Conservation Service  
National Water & Climate Center  
1201 NE Lloyd Blvd., Suite 802  
Portland, OR 97232

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Subject: PER – 2011 Westwide Snow Survey Training School

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To:

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The 2011 Westwide Snow Survey Training School will be held January 9-14, 2011, at Shore Lodge McCall, Idaho. It has been over 20 year since the school was held in McCall. Shore Lodge is a beautiful facility with lots of amenities. We are excited to be there and in the McCall area once again.

We have secured a package rate that falls within the existing federal Per Diem rate for the area. The rate is \$112.50 + 11% tax per day and \$12.00 resort fee per day, per person for double occupancy. This rate includes three meals per day beginning with the evening meal on Sunday and ending at noon the following Friday.

Participants who wish to have single occupancy or bring family members or guests are welcome to contact [InIdaho.com](http://InIdaho.com) for prices and room availability. All attendees must stay at Shore Lodge and participate in the meal package.

Attendees are expected to come prepared for outdoor, on-snow training sessions, and to bring all equipment necessary to be able to: 1) travel on foot, over snow, and 2) stay out one night in a self-constructed snow shelter. Because of declining interest, an organized ski lesson will not be offered on Sunday. However, cross-country skis are available for rental at various shops in McCall.

2011 Westwide Snow School  
September 23, 2010

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We are in the process of submitting the instructor list to NEDC, and are assigning topics and duties. Many of last year's instructors will be returning to teach again this year, and will probably teach the same topics. As a courtesy to the rest of the instructor cadre, and to set the proper example for the trainees, all NRCS instructors will be expected to be available onsite until the Friday morning sessions have been completed. On Sunday, check in will begin at 4:00 pm and there is a welcome dinner at 6:00 pm. All students are expected to be in attendance through the Friday session, which ends at noon, so please make your airline reservations accordingly.

**NRCS trainee names must be submitted through AgLearn. It is the trainee's responsibility to see that this is done.** If you are aware of additional NRCS employees who need to be trained please contact that person's supervisor. Remember that there is no tuition fee to attend this training, but implications of the Fair Labor Standards Act (FSLA) and its budgetary impact relative to the mandatory portion of the training must be considered.

Each participant is responsible for making his or her own arrangements. Room reservations at Shore Lodge may be made after October 15, 2010. **Cut-off date for reservations is December 9, 2010.** Reservations should be made by calling Inldaho.com at 1 800 844 3246 or may be placed on line at [www.Inldaho.com/snowschoo](http://www.Inldaho.com/snowschoo) . All reservations will be considered double occupancy unless otherwise requested. Attendees will be assigned a roommate unless the roommate is identified while making their reservation. Attendees (instructors or speakers) that will not be at training for the entire time will need to check with Inldaho.com for a lodging and meal package.

Because the number of students will be limited to a **maximum of 80 individuals**, now is the time to begin contacting those cooperators and contractors that you feel should attend. **Non-NRCS attendees need to do three things:**

1. Inform you of their intent to attend the school.
2. Contact Jo Huelshoff at the National Water and Climate Center, at (503) 414-3031, with mailing address, phone number, etc. NEDC will mail information on local transportation and necessary outdoor equipment when they send out the binder and course material.
3. Make room reservation at Shore Lodge but **NOT before contacting Jo.**

We are looking forward to a good school and hope that this preliminary information will be helpful in discussions with potential participants. As more information becomes available, we will pass it on to you. Please don't hesitate to give me a call if you have questions.

TONY TOLSDORF  
Hydrologist

cc:

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