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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

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**NSP statement on death of Arapahoe Basin Snow Safety Director Leif Borgeson**

Lakewood, Colo. - On February 8, 2011, former National Ski Patrol Training Director and current Arapahoe Basin patroller and Snow Safety Director Leif Borgeson died while hiking to the bowl at Aspen Highlands. According to a press release from Arapahoe Basin, Borgeson collapsed after the hike and was immediately attended to by Aspen Highlands patrol, but was unable to be resuscitated.

"The NSP extends its condolences to Leif's family and the Arapahoe Basin management and patrol on the loss of Leif Borgeson," said NSP Executive Director Tim White. "Leif was a valued contributor to the many NSP education programs that patrollers nationwide use, and his knowledge and energy helped spearhead the further development of NSP."

Borgeson worked for the NSP from 2001-2004, helping to oversee the creation of the *Outdoor Emergency Care 4th edition*, as well as work on other NSP publications, including the *Transportation Manual*.

Leif worked at Arapahoe Basin starting in 1990, joining the ski patrol after patrolling at Keystone for several years. He served as a medical coordinator, paramedic, snow safety supervisor, and recently as snow safety director. He has been instrumental in creating Arapahoe Basin's Avalanche Procedures and Protocols, and is recognized nationally for his work on the study of avalanches, in particular wet slab avalanches.

**About the National Ski Patrol**

The National Ski Patrol is a federally-chartered nonprofit membership association dedicated to serving the public and the mountain recreation industry. For 72 years, the NSP has been at the forefront of safety and emergency care education programs. The association's 27,000 members represent 98 percent of the nation's patrollers. For more information, access [www.nsp.org](http://www.nsp.org).

For further comments or interviews regarding the NSP, please call NSP Communications Director Candace Horgan at (303) 988-1111, x2625.

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