

# **Avalanche Hazard Zones of Hinsdale County and Town of Lake City, Colorado.**

## **A Preliminary Assessment.**

*Overview:* This preliminary assessment has been compiled to document the avalanche hazard zones immediately adjoining the Town of Lake City for the purpose of identifying areas that are a threat to public safety and property.

To identify every possible hazard is not possible. This report identifies areas that are hazards in normal winter conditions and areas that would be of major concern during periods of catastrophic snows.

An example being the spring of 2003, when the Front Range of Colorado was hit by catastrophic snows, ranging in depth from 3 ft. at lower elevations to 10 ft. at the higher elevations. This major snow storm effectively shut down the Front Range and I-70 corridor for more than a week. There was major property damage and some loss of life.

As to when a catastrophic snow storm will hit the San Juan Mountains is not possible to project, but it will happen. The last storm of that scale was 1905 -1906. Within a period of 60 days 24 people lost their lives and uncounted amounts of property damage.

Hinsdale County Hazards Zones

Index of Town of Lake City Avalanche Hazard Zones

Lake City Townsite Groups:

Group A

- A1. Bluff Street
- A2. Henson Creek
- A3. Pete's Lake
- A4 - A5. Water Tank Area

Group B

- B1. Water Dog Trail
- B2 - B3. T- Mountain Addition
- B4 - B5. Station 11
- B6. Power Station Area

Group C

- C1. Crooke Falls Area

County Road 30

Argenta Falls

Highway 149

Belle of West

Lake Fork Canyon

Maps