

Still weak in Island Park

Date

Sat, 12/23/2023 - 12:25

Activity

Skiing

Snowmobiling

We snowmobiled up to 9,000' on Sawtelle peak, then skied to dig a couple pits. Our first pit was on an East [aspect](#) on a heavily wind loaded slope. The HS was 130cm (or 4.2 feet). There was 8" of new snow equal to 0.85" SWE, sitting over old consolidated snow that made up a [slab](#) over soft, weak facets about 50cm off the ground. We had ECTP24 x2 break on the old weak snow. Our second pit was on a SW [aspect](#) and had an HS of 90cm (almost 3 feet). We got an ECTP19 here breaking on the same layer of very soft, weak facets. Wind was moderate out of the west-northwest with temps in the teens F. The new snow combined with the poor snow structure will increase avalanche danger this weekend. Video attached.

Region

Island Park

Location (from list)

Sawtelle Peak

Observer Name

Alex Marienthal