

Wet snow, dry snow, weak snow

Date

Mon, 03/18/2024 - 11:30

Activity

Skiing

We went on a safari of different snow conditions at Beehive today. We toured up to the prayer flags, looked into the top of Bear Basin on southeast and northeast aspects, and then returned to Beehive through the north edge of Tyler's. We dug a pit in the [starting zone](#) of Tyler's and were a bit surprised by an ECTP11 on basal [depth hoar](#). There were percolation columns through the upper half of the snowpack and the lower two thirds of the snowpack were moist. You could make a snowball. The [depth hoar](#) remains very weak and F+ hardness. The stout melt freeze crust was 3" thick on the southwest [aspect](#).

Surface snow conditions varied wildly as is often the case in the spring. There was cold powder on the northern half of the compass. The crust had broken down by 11 AM on the southeast [aspect](#) and the top 3-5" were wet and rollerballs were easy to push downhill. The southwest [aspect](#) was just starting to soften as we left at 1 PM. If we continue to get good overnight freezes, we will only have to worry about wet, loose snow avalanches. Wet [slab](#) activity should be limited if there is any.

Region

Northern Madison

Location (from list)

Beehive Basin

Observer Name

David Zinn