

Taylor Fork - Widespread weak layer under new snow

Date

Sun, 02/02/2025 - 14:45

Activity

Snowmobiling

We went to the Taylor Fork area and into Cub/Cabin Creek to see what snow surface was buried by recent snow (about 0.8" swe in this area).

It was easy to find small facets in every pit we dug (some had [surface hoar](#) as well). We looked at N, SW, W, and E aspects at elevations around 9000 ft. On a north [aspect](#), they were 1mm facets chained together almost 10mm long.

Consistently these [weak layer](#) were 8-10" deep (more in areas with drifting). They produced easy ECTP's and one ECTPV.

What was remarkable is that this layer produced shooting cracks all day long. They were generally subtle but would shoot 10-50 feet.

WHAT TO DO? Now is time to shift our mindset to "**stepping back**". Lots of great powder is on the way. Unfortunately this snow will likely come with a lot of wind. The more snow/water and wind that come, the bigger of a step back, we'll need to take in our terrain choices. By the end of the week, we will likely be avoiding all avalanche terrain including runout zones in areas that get 3-4" of swe.

Region

Southern Madison

Location (from list)

Taylor Fork

Observer Name

Staples & Marienthal