

Weakening surface near Cooke City

Date

Tue, 12/03/2024 - 10:00

Activity

Snowmobiling

Lots of [surface hoar](#). Those crystals are often destroyed before being buried, but [surface hoar](#) is a good sign of weather conditions that are good for near surface faceting.

The upper few inches of snow is a mix of broken snowflakes that are starting to facet a little bit. Not too terrible yet.

Deeper layers of old November snow closer to the ground are faceted and breaking in [stability](#) tests. To get an avalanche breaking on those facets, I think you need an old [wind slab](#) on top. Even then, I think the sensitivity has dropped a lot.

We did see one recent wet loose avalanche that started near some exposed rocks in a place that typically gets wet. I did NOT see any wet loose slides in East and Southeast-facing gullies on Barronette peak. However, I'd be nervous ice climbing in these gullies when the sun is hitting them.

Region

Cooke City

Location (from list)

Lulu Pass

Observer Name

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