2019-2020 mid-season snowpack summary: Deep and dangerous avalanches, travel cautiously

Submitted by Alex Marienthal on Sat, 01/25/2020 - 20:53

Every year throughout the Rocky Mountains we warn that early season snow is not good for stability. Some years are worse than others. In my experience, this year is one of the worst. We will likely be dealing with a deep slab avalanche problem for at least the next month, as long as the mountains receive more snow. There is weak snow near the base of the snowpack, and it is distributed across terrain differently throughout the advisory area. Our website is full of photos, recent avalanche activity and snowpack videos to show where persistent weak layers are most suspect and types of terrain to avoid. This summary supplements that information and suggests general travel advice.

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