Deep vs Shallow Beehive area

Date Wed, 01/15/2025 - 13:25 Activity Skiing

Went looking for shallow and weak snow. Found it in the small steep slope just above the creek not far from the TH (HS ~80-90cm, fist hard facets near the ground, ECTP18).

Then dug near the top of Tyler's where it is typically weak. HS 103 cm, F+ hardness facets about a foot above the ground, ECTP28).

In Middle Basin we found snow depths of 150 cm and 200 cm.

No avalanches seen and we had good visibility. (one group was skiing in upper Bear)

No collapsing or cracking either.

It seems unlikely to <u>trigger</u> avalanches on facets in deeper areas. It seems possible in thinner areas. How possible? Not sure exactly, but the odds are decreasing the longer things sit without more snow or <u>wind loading</u>.

The primary concerns moving forward are wind slabs and storm slabs unless there is some major storm with a lot of wind and water.

Generally Moderate danger but we could be moving towards Low with time and depending on the weather.

Snow quality - lots of good powder, but lots of wind affected snow above treeline. Sunny slopes got damp today.

Region Northern Madison Location (from list) Beehive Basin Observer Name Staples & Staples & Sunny