Weak Layers Buried in Island Park

Date
Mon, 12/09/2024 - 13:00
Activity
Snowmobiling

The snowpack remains thin in Island Park. We rode the Big Springs Loop around the Black Canyon area in Island Park. We dug two pits near the top of the loop in the area where one crosses the Canyon. One was on a southwest facing slope and the other on a north-facing slope. Both near 8100' elevation.

The snow depth was 60-70 cm (2-2.5 feet). Surface hoar and near surface facets are now capped by this weekend's snow. The layers are buried 2-4" deep. These are not a concern currently but certainly will become so with the next significant storm (or incremental loading). ECTN2-4 on these layer for now. Winds were calm and avalanches in non-wind-loaded terrain are unlikely. Small areas of isolated instability are possible in higher elevation wind-loaded terrain.

Region
Island Park
Location (from list)
Black Canyon
Observer Name
Dave Zinn