

West Big Hole Snow Profile

Date

Sun, 01/08/2023 - 13:00

Activity

Skiing

Snowmobiling

Snowmobiled to 8200ft then skied up to 9000ft. Dug a snow profile to ground on NE aspect at 8800ft. Height of Snow was 120cm (4 feet). Multiple weak layers in the snowpack including one about a foot down and a thicker layer of faceted sugary snow in the bottom 2 feet of the snowpack near the ground. ECTN29 on a crust and small grained facets about a foot down from the surface, however that slab layer released when a shovel was put behind it with a sudden pop and very little friction, see grainy photo. Surface was faceting old powder which could be another weak layer when buried. Not very reactive in this spot at the moment likely due to lack of new snow in a while. However generally poor snowpack structure is not reassuring and will need to watch when this snowpack gets rapidly loaded by new snow or wind blown snow.

Region

Dillon Area

Location (from list)

West Big Hole- Beaverhead Range

Observer Name

Alex Dunn