Spring Variability in Hyalite

Date
Fri, 03/29/2024 - 13:00
Activity
Skiing

Skied Hyalite and Divide peak today. Snow conditions were extremely variable, ranging from undisturbed powder, to wind slabs and sun crusts. No bullseye signs of instability outside of the new snow (i.e. on the deep slab layer).

In the recent snow there was some localized cracking in dispersed windslabs, rollerballs coming off steep solar aspects, and two old windslab releases in the summer trail bowl off Hyalite. These slides probably released either before or during the most recent wind/storm event, as the start zones were both partially refilled. The larger of the two was noticeably older than the other, with the start zone and debris deeply covered. Both were R1/D1, naturally triggers, with crowns no deeper than half a meter directly under the cornice. No cornice fall seemed evident near either crown.

New snow that was sheltered from the wind and sun showed no signs of instability, and the weather consisted of light winds with periods of interspersed graupel and sun. Weather and obvious wind affects looked similar across the range.

Region
Northern Gallatin
Location (from list)
Hyalite - main fork
Observer Name
Wyatt Hubbard