Many Wind Slab Avalanches at Lionhead

LIONHEAD AREA Lionhead Range

3/16/2025

Code

N-R2-D2-I

Elevation

9400

Aspect

Ε

Latitude

44.72920

Longitude

-111.32300

Notes

We saw many R1-R2 wind slab avalanches below the Lionhead Ridge cornice line. Visibility was limited so I won't estimate the exact number, but nearly every time we had good views of the steep faces, we saw cornice collapses, debris, or small crown lines. There were two slides on east aspects that ran closer to full path and piled debris more deeply. I expect that most of these had run within the last 24 hours, but continuing snowfall and hurricane force winds made precisely dating these a challenge (many trees were blown down during the wind event, these too were already somewhat buried). None of the avalanches broke on persistent weak layers as far as I could tell.

Number caught

Λ

Number buried

0

Trigger

Natural trigger

R size

2

D size

2

Bed Surface

I - Interface between new and old snow

Problem Type

Wind Slab

Images

Debris from a Natural Avalnache, Lionhead

Small Crown of a Wind Slab Avalanche, Lionhead

Heavily Wind-Loaded Slope and Cornice Collapse, Lionhead

Attached Videos

Dangerous Avalanche Conditions - Lionhead - 17 March 2025

Snow Observation Source

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Slab Thickness units

centimeters

Single / Multiple / Red Flag Multiple Avalanches Advisory Year 24-25