Widespread surface hoar and small avalanche

Date Tue, 01/03/2023 - 13:20 Activity Snowmobiling

Rode through 1st, 2nd, & 3rd Yellowmules, into the heads of McAtee, Muddy, and Bear Creeks. Saw a small snowmobile triggered <u>slide</u> (~1ft deep and ~20x20 ft) at the head of Muddy Creek (NE <u>Aspect</u>, 9400 ft). Looks like it was likely triggered on Sunday (Jan 1st) in a shallow spot near rocks. No other avalanches or signs of instability. Dug on NE and SE aspects around 9400 ft (HS100-140) and found F+ to 4F facets in the bottom 2/3rd of the snowpack, but got ECTN21 and ECTX.

Widespread big crystals of <u>surface hoar</u> (feathers around 1 cm in size). We will be watching to see if it is buried as it is potentially our next <u>weak layer</u> of concern.

Region Northern Madison Location (from list) Buck Ridge Observer Name Ian Hoyer