New snow, generally stable, small loose slides

Date Fri, 03/14/2025 - 16:50 Activity Skiing

Toured up the south end of Miller Ridge to 9,500'. Dug a pit on a northeast facing slope, 9300' (profile and pic attached). Snow depth was 7-8 feet.

6" of new snow was right side up. Below the new snow was a soft (1F-) melt-freeze crust with soft decomposing and slightly faceted particles below. ECTN13 broke below the crust. Below that the snowpack was 1F to P+ hard and lacked weak layers. The Feb 4 dirt layer was clearly visible.

There was a small natural dry loose on south face of Crown Butte and I triggered a dry loose <u>slide</u> on a test slope near the ridge (video). Wind was calm, even along the ridge near regularly wind-loaded slopes, and there was no snow blowing off ridgelines. I saw no signs of fresh wind-<u>loading</u>, but when the wind blows there will be fresh drifts that will be possible to <u>trigger</u>.

Skies were broken to partly sunny with a few light snow showers. Slopes that received sun got moist at the surface (at least below 9,000').

Region Cooke City Location (from list) Miller Ridge Observer Name Alex Marienthal