

Island Park

Date

Tue, 03/18/2025 - 15:20

Activity

Snowmobiling

In the last five days, this area has received snowfall containing 4.5-5.3 inches of water which has settled to about 3 feet of new snow. Winds last Sunday night from the southwest reached speeds up to 80 mph before easing, but then they blew from the north today.

We saw a handful of avalanches above treeline terrain that seemed to be wind slabs. However wind and snow had obscured them and I suspect there had been a lot more.

No cracking in the new snow and one possible [collapse](#). Interestingly - My [stability test](#) scores had actually improved since Friday when there was less new snow. They broke and propagated just under a crust under the new snow. ECTP12's on Friday. ECTN & ECTP25 today. The reason is that they have been breaking on old, broken snowflakes....not facets.

Key points

- The new snow seemed mostly stable on sheltered slopes
- [Wind loading](#) is the main issue.
- With this kind of [loading](#), it often finds weaknesses in the snowpack. I don't expect any monster slides, but also wouldn't be surprised to hear of one being triggered if tomorrow were a busy weekend day with lots of people out
- Avoid alpine terrain above treeline where winds have drifted lots of snow. Avoid hanging out in runout zones of big paths

Region

Island Park

Location (from list)

CENTENNIAL RANGE

Observer Name

Staples