



PM FORM 2017-18

Date: 20180223 **Time:** 1730 **Guides Present:** Tate, Reggie, Pat, Alex

Area/Zone/Drainage: Paradise, Snowslide, Elk Creek

FIELD WEATHER SUMMARY:

Elev. Observed		SKY		Precip		Est Wind @ Ridgetop		Temperature (C)		Snow Depth (cm)		
HI	Low	AM	PM	AM	PM	Speed & Direction		Hi	Low	HN	HST	HS
9,800	6200	CLR	BKN	NO	NO	light	NW	-4	-16	0	0	200

Summary of today's weather trends and factors including pressure, visibility, radiation, snowfall distribution, wind drifted snow:

Clear day remote with clouds building to the South and over Baldy in the afternoon.

AVALANCHE OBSERVATIONS:

NUM	TRIGGER	TYPE	SIZE	INC	ASP	ELEV	LOCATION	COMMENTS
1	N	SS	D2	40*	SE	7500'	Headwaters Tompsoms Cr.	Windloaded Steep rocky
1	N	SS	D2	40*	E	8800'	Big Peak East	Cornice release pulled slab out

SNOWPACK OBSERVATIONS:

Summary of observations including penetration, snowpack tests/location, relevancy/results; layer extent, changes through day:

10-20 cm of new from out 2/22 storm in the Paradise area. Test pits showed the 2/16 ice lens has gained strength. Really didnt see any signs of instability other than some hollow feeling snow. NE pit at 8600 feet with a HS of 200cm CTN, CTH-BRK and ECTX. Another Pit on an East aspect at 9100 feet, CTM RP 35cm subsurface, ECTX. We are still concerned about cold steep roll overs, especially if wind loaded.

Snowpack Structure: (Relevant layers of interest, how to identify them and distribution. Slab thickness and distribution. Average SN depths. Etc.) :

10-20 cm new storm snow on 40cm HST from our last storm. F- PP over 2cm IFrc over 10-15cm FCsf on old snow. Standout layer was rain crust from event early in the storm. This was reactive where wind loaded snow sat on top of it, but unreactive in areas without a slab. Didn't observe mid or lower snowpack.

ASSESSMENT OF THE AVALANCHE PROBLEM

Avalanche Characteristics			Likelihood of Triggering		Terrain Feature
Layer of Interest: Depth/Date	Type:	Size: (D/R-Scale)	Sensitivity:	Distribution:	Terrain: (Location, Aspect, Start Zones, Shape, Incline, Run Name)
2/16 50cm	Persistent Slab	3	Stubborn	Widespread	thin ice lens from midstorm in our 2/16 storm. Found below 8800'
2/14 50cm	Persistent Slab	2.5	Un-Reactive	Widespread	has not been jumping out remote but it has been mentioned in multiple pro-obs

AVALANCHE HAZARD SUMMARY

Summarize the character of the primary concern including the date/depth/distribution of the problem/weak layer. ID strategies for identifying the primary concern. What information is still lacking?

As mentioned above we are still avoiding steep, cold, roll overs and steep rocky where structure is very poor. Main concern is still the 2/16 ice lens as we have seen recent natural avalanches on this layer.

TERRAIN USE STRATEGIES:

Summarize terrain choices, features committed to and avoided, timing.

Good use of terrain today. Two guides backed off of small pieces of terrain due to poor hollow structure.