



PM FORM 2018-19

Date: 20190126 **Time:** 1800 **Guides Present:** Casey, Deal, Kittrell

Area/Zone/Drainage: Skillern, Pinyon, Snowslide

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
9,400	7000	FEW	CLR	NO	NO	light to strong	NW	2	-2	0	0	110-150

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

Very gusty winds today, predominate winds were NW but had local effects from all directions likely due to mixing from the upper elevation winds.

AVALANCHE OBSERVATIONS:

NUM	TRIGGER		TYPE	SIZE	INC	ASP	ELEV	LOCATION	COMMENTS
1	N	NL	SS	D3	> 35	SW	9000	Back side of Rhonda Nay	Storm slab that took on a bunch of heat and stepped down.
1	N		SS	D1.5	>35	S	9400	Saddle between Paradise peak and Snowslide peak	likely another warm storm slab

SNOWPACK OBSERVATIONS:

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

Boot pen has been 10-30cm for the last two days of operation., before 1/15 it was equal to HS. Impressive amount of wind board / hard slab all over our terrain today, so thick and stiff that it is seemingly untriggerable on cold aspects.

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

Pole pokes, hand pits and ski testing, pits, seem to indicate a strong pack in our remote terrain. The exceptions to this are pockets of burried SH (1/15) and solar aspects that took on a huge amount of radiation today.

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)
40-60 1/15	Storm Slab	3	Reactive	Specific	Warm aspects, easily observable.

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?

Primary concern today was heat on snow form our recent storm snow. On cold aspects the interface we saw yesterday (25cm down)

TERRAIN USE STRATEGIES:

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

Very good use of terrain today, wind damage was significant and it was challenge to work with. Surfaces are hard to read other than where it was full blown dragon skin.