



PM Operational Hazard and Risk Assessment

Date: 20180328 Time: 1900 Guides Present: McCormick, J. Puleio

Field Weather Summary:

Elevation Observed		Sky		Precipitation		Estimated Wind @ Ridgeline		Temperature (C)		Snow Depth (cm)		
AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	Speed (MPH)	Direction	High	Low	HN	HST	HS
8500	10,000	Few	Few	-	-	Mod	NW	0	-3	-	-	280

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

Clear and breezy out of the NW all day. Snow skied fast on all aspects thanks to the cold wind. Mod transport only from steep, norths as other aspects were locked up.

Snowpack Observations:

Summary of observations including penetration, snowpack tests/location, relevency/results; layer extent, past avalanche occurrences:

Ski Pen 15-30 cm. N 8500': Hard RP Hand Shears at 50 cm, bad structure but very stubborn.

Avalanche Observations:

Date	Number	Size	Location	Trigger	Type	Inclination	Aspect	Elevation	Comments:
3/22	1	D2.5	The Wall	N	Wet Slab ?	38	N	8500	Good propagation, had Persistent Slab character. Crown Height 2-4'

Assessment of the Avalanche Problem:

Layer of Interest	Avalanche Character		Likelihood of Triggering		Terrain Feature	Confidence
	Problem	Forecast Size	Sensitivity	Spatial Distribution	Elevation/Aspect	
<i>Date; Depth</i>	<i>Loose; Wet; Storm; Wind; Persistent; Deep; Cornices; Glide</i>	<i>Destructive Potential</i>	<i>Un-reactive; Stubborn; Reactive; Touchy</i>	<i>Isolated; Specific; Widespread</i>	<i>Location/Run Name/Start zone/Shape/Incline</i>	<i>Low; Mod; High</i>
3/22 ; 50 cm	Wind Slab	D2	Stubborn	Specific	Norths near ridgeline	High
2/14 ; 120 cm	Deep Persistent Slab	D3	Un-reactive	Widespread		

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 lacking?

Wind slab appears to be the major problem in this zone. The Deep Persistent problem has however demonstrated the ability to come to life under significant loading (rain on snow) in the 8500' elevation band in this, and many other zones.

Terrain Use Strategies:

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

Skied soft lines, avoiding wind-loaded start zones, up to 35°

Strategic Mindset:

Stepping Out **Comments:** Watching wind-loaded start zones, while learning more about the spatial variability of the Persistent problem