

# PM Form for Smiley Zone West, Smiley Zone East

## context

Assessment Date & Time: 2021-03-04 @ 17:04

Assessment Type: nowcast

Valid Until: 2021-03-04 @

Users Present: Mike Langhenry, Bret Rasmussen, Kevin Allred, Travis Feist, Jeff Hambelton, Matt Entz, Andrew Irvin

## Field Observations

See observations table

## Snowpack/PWL

*Snowpack Summary*

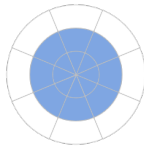
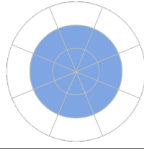

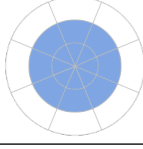
HS = 120-200 cm

Upper: 30cm F to 4F PP to DF

Mid: 30-50cm of 4F to 1F rounds below 02/11 interface and above 1/27 Facets

Lower: 50-90cm 1F below 1/27 layer FC

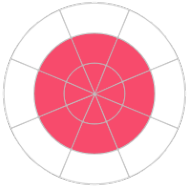
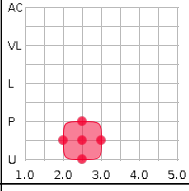
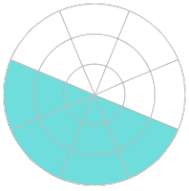
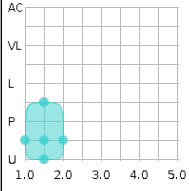
### Assessments

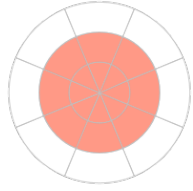
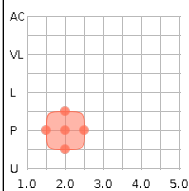
PWL	Date	Status	Crystal Type (1)	Crystal Type (2)	Depth Min	Depth Max	Asp/Elev	Comment
2/19	2021-02-19	Active	FC		15	50		Initiates but doesn't propagate.
2/11	2021-02-11	Active	FC		50	70		Very thin FC layer with conflicting snowpack test results. No other signs of instability observed on this layer today.
1/27	2021-01-27	Dormant	FC		70	100		
12/11	2020-12-11	Dormant	FC		100	200		Not formally observed today. Dirt at lower elevations means this problem probably isn't there.

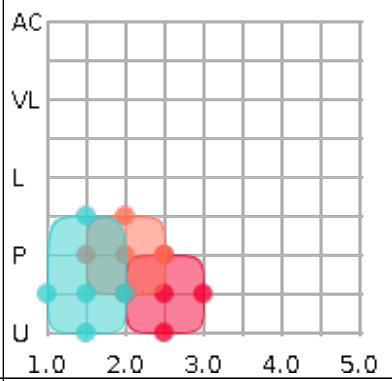
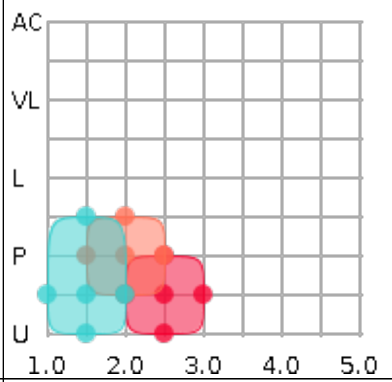
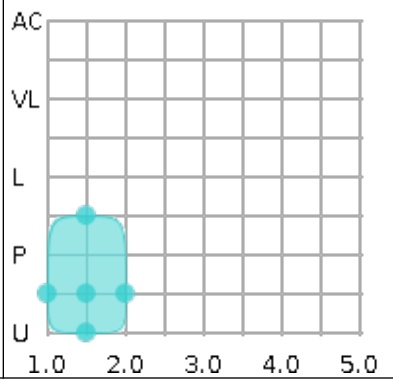
## Hazard Assessment

*Hazard Assessment*

*Avalanche Problems*

Type of Problem	Asp/Elev	Failure Plane	Distribution	Sensitivity	Typical Depth	Hazard Chart	Comment
Deep Persistent Slab		12/11	Widespread	Stubborn	80-100		1/27 is also a concern.
Wet Loose		Non-persistent	Specific	Stubborn	0-20		Rapid warming creating water in upper layers of snowpack with potential to step down into other problems. Specific to solar effect slopes and thinner areas.

Persistent Slab		2/19	Widespread	Stubborn	30-50		Hard to trigger with CT/ECT's, no slab over weak.
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<i>Hazard Ratings</i>							
Elevation Band	Hazard Rating	Problem Importance			Hazard Chart		
High Elevation	2	1. Persistent Slab 2/19 2. Deep Persistent Slab 12/11 3. Wet Loose Non-persistent					
Mid Elevation	2	1. Persistent Slab 2/19 2. Deep Persistent Slab 12/11 3. Wet Loose Non-persistent					
Low Elevation	2	1. Wet Loose Non-persistent					

Confidence: Moderate  
 Comment: 4th day in the field, increasing confidence and obs data.

**Review the Day**  
*Reassess the morning hazard assessment and level of confidence. Reflect on the day's decision making.*  
 Review the morning forecast. Were conditions similar to what we expected? Were we accurate, or off...and why? Any surprises?  
 Yes - No surprises. Similar snowpack with lower HS to previous days.

Decision making:  
 Was today's terrain use in line with our forecast and plan? If no, then why not?  
 Stayed off complex terrain, good group management traversing challenging terrain.

If you went to the same terrain in same conditions tomorrow, what would you do differently?  
 Step out into more of the challenging terrain, keeping the same margins as today.

What closed terrain would you open tomorrow?

None - Keep complex terrain closed due to lingering risk of PS/DPS.

Where did we encounter the greatest risk?

Obvious slide paths we crossed through (runout) on the trail enroute to Grand Prize summit.

Exposed to the track of a few avy paths higher up.

### **Review Learning and Group Dynamics**

*Review key learning points and reflect on how well the group worked as a team*

What were the key learning points today?

Still seeing DPS problem that we saw in Frenchies yesterday.

Similar snowpack, with lower HS in this area.

Any issues with the group?

Moved through terrain well.

How can these be addressed?

Deep-tap tests targeting layer of concern that wasn't addressed today.

Get into more terrain!

## Observations Table

### *Snow Profiles*

No Observations Submitted

### *SWAG Field Summaries*

No Observations Submitted

### *SWAG Avalanche Observations*

No Observations Submitted

### *Terrain*

No Observations Submitted

### *Messages*

Location(s)	Date	Title	Message
Grand Prize	03/04/20 21	LORI version	North-ish aspects in upper elevation, south side of zone. Searching for propagation in snowpack, and compare to the obs we've made the past few days in this new zone. No ECT propagation in several pits. Found PWL's in upper layers of snowpack, as well as deeper down but that layer wasn't targeted in tests. Potentially go into the area tomorrow with a stepping-out mindset, targeting the deeper facets with a DT. More obs on sunny aspects.
Grand Prize	03/04/20 21	Right-side-up snowpack	No signs of propagation. Didn't identify any signs of instability. Multiple pits in near and below treeline elevations on NE through N to W-facing slopes all resulted in ECTN. 100cm diff in HS from low to higher elevs. Deep facets exist but weren't tested/targeted. Widespread settlement noted in snowpack where we traveled. Large facets noted around trigger points (rocks near surface).