

Avalanche Activity in Centennials, Mt Jefferson

Date

Tue, 01/04/2022 - 08:05

Activity

Snowmobiling

We rode from the Sawtell Road up to Mount Jefferson then through to upper Hell Roaring Creek on a tour of the range and accident sites with three members of the Fremont County SAR team, Randy, Nick and Justin. The ride was a beautiful traverse of the range. There was one **very large natural avalanche** that failed a week earlier on Mount Jefferson and several others that broke during the last [loading](#) event. We dug a couple of snowpits, finding a DEEP (200-230 cm HS) and mostly stable snowpack (ECTXs). Brett Rasmusen found a layer of NSF in the head of the White Elephant drainage and an avalanche nearby at Lionhead is indicative of a more widespread [weak layer](#) 1-2' under the surface. [LOW](#) / [MODERATE](#) seemed appropriate on deeper instabilities, but with anticipated [loading](#), we must communicate the concern about this new [weak layer](#) and the potential for large avalanches breaking in the upper part of the snowpack.

Region

Island Park

Location (from list)

Mt Jefferson Bowl

Observer Name

Doug Chabot and Dave Zinn