Wind Drifted Snow in the Bridgers

Date Tue, 03/18/2025 - 16:45 Activity Skiing

After a weekend of stormy weather, dropping about 1 foot of snow (~1" of SWE) on the ground, we toured out to the Throne today to see how the new snow had settled and what the winds had done to it. As we approached the main face, we noted swirling winds transporting a fair amount of snow. Generally, winds blew out of the north with gusts from all sorts of directions throughout the day.

Despite the active snow transport, east facing snow surfaces were still soft with minimal to no <u>slab</u> development. We did not note any signs of instability as we traveled up the face. As we neared the ridgeline and shifted to a more southerly <u>aspect</u>, we noted scalloped and scoured snow surfaces and the development of thin wind skins and a few 1-2" wind slabs. We dug a <u>snowpit</u> on a southerly <u>aspect</u> at 8360' (HS: 212) and got an ECTP12 on an 18" <u>wind slab</u>. This test result, as well as the few small wind slabs we noted were the only signs of instability seen today. We chose to stay off of steep southerly terrain and traveled back to the main face where winds had minimally impacted snow surfaces.

On the ride out, we had great views of the Bridger Ridge and did not see any signs of new avalanches across this broad area.

Region Bridger Range Location (from list) The Throne Observer Name H. Darby