

Facet hunting on the Ramp

Date

Sat, 11/23/2024 - 15:00

Activity

Skiing

I went searching for facets on the Ramp today and came up short on my results. The snowpack is still thin and the few measurements I took showed about a 50-60cm HS in most places. On the ridge itself at 8500', winds were blowing strong from the W, and at mid-mountain, gusts were strong enough to blow your hat off, but the Ramp itself remained relatively non wind-affected. In the few handpits I dug, I did not observe any sort of [slab](#) formation, nor [faceted snow](#), but noted about 10-20cm of dense powder on top of moist snow to the ground, especially in thinner areas. I dug a quick pit just off from the ridge and noted an HS of 55cm with an 3cm decomposing crust about 29cm up from the ground. Snowpack ranged from fist hardness down to 1 finger at the base. And though the grains at the ground had some edges and corners, I did not note truly [faceted snow](#) at the base. Another thing: around 14:45 a strong burst of [graupel](#) fell for about 10 minutes that then changed to snowflakes. The pulse of that storm was dying off off by the time I skied off the Ramp around 15:30.

My main concern today were all the limestone sharks still very present out there, but in general N/NE facing aspects up high held good snow even after these warm temperatures!

Region

Bridger Range

Location (from list)

The Ramp

Observer Name

H. Darby