Flanders Obs & amp; Test Scores

Date Thu, 12/19/2024 - 12:00 Activity Skiing

Toured up Flanders Peak this morning—a beautiful day with clear skies and no/light winds.

During our ascent, we observed widespread wind effects above 8800'. The west-facing ridge of the drainage was scoured of snow, while wind loading was observed on E/SE aspects between 8800' and the summit. 1-5" thick wind slabs were widespread, and were especially of note at lower elevations in the east-facing trees; increasing depth and stiffness as we ascended and on Flanders' E shoulder. Got a few small whumpfs along the E shoulder while ascending, but no other signs of instability on the day. Several small test slopes we traversed along the ridge did not show signs of instability when we tested them.

The power of the winds was emphasized by the scoured west side of the East Ridge of the Main Fork.

We skied the slope in the trees south of the summit and dug a pit on a SE aspect @ 9530'. Skiing quality was low. Snowpit depth was 72cm. Test results were CT11 SP, ECTN8, PST 44/100 (End).

Region Northern Gallatin Location (from list) Flanders Creek Observer Name E. Webb