Natural Avalanche Cycle at Lionhead

LIONHEAD AREA
Lionhead Range
4/2/2023
Code
N-R2-D2
Aspect Range
E - N
Latitude
44.72920
Longitude
-111.32300
Notes

We saw three more avalanches that broke at least a few feet deep and several storm slab avalanches that failed within the new and wind-drifted snow. No other observed avalanches were as large as the one on Targhee Peak.

We stayed in terrain less than 30 degrees steep, with minor exceptions on small slopes. We avoided all large, wind-loaded slopes and crossed below them cautiously. The snowpack maintains the characteristics of mid-winter, and deeply buried persistent weak layers remain a concern. Going forward, we will continue to assess the upper few feet of the snowpack for instability before considering any steep slopes. We will continue to manage the deep slab avalanche problem through avoidance (of avalanche terrain) and consequence minimization (by selecting non-wind-loaded slopes that are smaller and free of terrain traps).

Number of slides
5
Number caught
0
Number buried
0
Trigger
Natural trigger
R size
2
D size
2
Images
Storm slab avalanche on Lionhead Ridge
Natural Avalanche below Lionhead Ridge
Snow Observation Source
Natural Avalanche Cycle at Lionhead
Slab Thickness units
centimeters
Single / Multiple / Red Flag
Multiple Avalanches
Advisory Year
22-23