

Great Visibility and Riding in the Taylor Fork

Date

Tue, 01/07/2025 - 12:00

Activity

Snowmobiling

We rode into the Taylor Fork today to check out conditions after the new snow from the last two weeks. We traveled up to the weather station above Sunlight Basin, along Sage Basin to the the Beaver [Slide](#), and through Carrot Basin to the wilderness boundary.

No cracking or collapsing was noted today. We did note two small avalanches along the Carrot Basin headwall from sometime in the last two days that broke on weak snow near the ground. These areas looked to have a shallower snowpack. Besides old crowns previously reported, and these two slides, we did not see any new avalanches in the area.

Near Sunlight Basin, we performed a [snowpit](#) test on an east [aspect](#) at 9480' (HS 98). It propagated (ECTP11) on weak, [faceted snow](#) near the ground. Our second pit, at the wilderness boundary, was on a south [aspect](#) at 8840' (HS 122). It propagated on weak snow below a melt-freeze crust near the ground (ECTP24).

With blue skies, sunshine, and a lack of cracking and collapsing, it was easy to be lulled into a false sense of confidence about our snowpack. But with a [loading](#) event ending only yesterday and our unstable test results, we chose to reign in our enthusiasm, follow a conservative travel plan, and stick to riding lower-angle powder.

Region

Southern Madison

Location (from list)

Taylor Fork

Observer Name

H. Darby