New Snow and Wind at Buck Ridge

Date Sat, 01/04/2025 - 14:00 Activity Snowmobiling

Today, we rode up to Buck Ridge and into the First and Second Yellow Mules. It snowed lightly and winds blew predominantly from the North. Visibility was virtually non-existent all day. No signs of recent avalanches were seen beyond one that was reported to us on 12/30 in the First Yellow Mule (Observation). No cracking or collapsing was noted.

We dug snowpits in both the First and Second Yellow Mules. They both showed layers of new and decomposing snow on top of weaker layers near the base. In the First Yellow Mule, our pit location was notably shallower and had well developed facets and <u>depth hoar</u> at the base.

Winds were actively redistributing snow all day. The snowpack continues to be tested by the weight of new snow over the last week, and now by stronger winds. Weak layers exist at the foundation of the snow. Keeping all that in mind, we chose to stay off of slopes steeper than 30 degrees. And thankfully, with daily snowfall this week, there is great coverage and a lot of fun to be had riding low-angle powder.

Region Northern Madison Location (from list) Buck Ridge Observer Name H. Darby