

## **GNFAC Avalanche Forecast for Wed Mar 12, 2025**

This is Mark Staples with the avalanche forecast for Wednesday, March 12th, at 7:00 a.m. sponsored by [Highline Partners](#) and [Cooke City Super 8/Bearclaw Bob's](#). This forecast does not apply to operating ski areas.

### Mountain Weather

**Strong winds** with snow coming late tomorrow is the main weather story. **Winds** yesterday averaged 25-35 mph gusting to 50 from the west and southwest. They eased a little this morning but will be picking up again today similar to yesterday except coming more from the south.

**Temperatures** today are starting in the mid-20s F and will warm into the upper 20s to low 30s F depending on cloud cover which will be increasing through the day.

**Snow** arrives tomorrow but mostly falls tomorrow night. Many mountain locations will get 3-5 inches with the most snow falling near West Yellowstone and Island Park. By Friday morning, the Centennial Range could have 12-24 inches. Strong winds continue Thursday but should be lighter Friday and Saturday before they ramp up again.

**But wait, there's more!** For the next week or two, the weather will remain quite active with snow and wind and a series of low pressure troughs (aka storms) lined up to roll across the area.

### Snowpack and Avalanche Discussion



#### All Regions

It's getting harder to find soft snow as a result of warm temperatures and very strong winds. It's also unlikely to trigger an avalanche. While skiing in the [Bridgers yesterday](#), my partner and I found very hard drifts and wind slabs that seemed welded into place. However, we skied around them because I don't like messing with avalanches.

**Wind slabs** will be the main thing to steer clear of today. Despite recent very strong winds, they have moved minimal snow as Ian found in the [northern Bridgers yesterday](#). Seek out soft snow on shady slopes untouched by wind for the safest and best riding conditions.

Near West Yellowstone, a **persistent slab** avalanche problem is mostly dormant. However the weak layer of facets 2-3 feet deep may start to wake up sometime in the near future if enough snow piles up.

Today the avalanche danger is [LOW](#).

### Upcoming Avalanche Education and Events

**Avalanche awareness focused on springtime avalanche conditions:** Thursday, March 13 at the Bozeman REI from 6-7:30 p.m. The event is free but has limited space and requires registration [HERE](#).