Woody Rige, ECTN's on 2mm SH

Date Sun, 12/15/2024 - 13:00 Activity Skiing

We skied east and west aspects of Woody Ridge today. It was snowing most of the day, with periods of heavy snowfall, which accumulated to about 4-5" of fresh throughout the day.

We found buried surface hoar in 3 different snowpits, on east and west aspects, between 9300-9700'. In each place the SH was buried under about 25cms of new snow, and I would describe it as somewhat irregular/inconsistent, and mixed with some other faceted snow types. The SH crystals were generally about 2mm in size.

In our snowpit (file attached) at 9550', west aspect, HS 70, we had an ECTN12 at 45cms. (on that surface hoar layer).

No collapsing, no cracking. No avalanche activity observed (low vis).

One additional note was that slopes exposed to the SW wind had a thin rime crust that appears to have formed last night. The ridgeline was also noticeably rimed. In areas this rime crust was up to 1cm thick and 1F hardness. We were not finding this rime crust on leeward or sheltered slopes.

Region Cooke City Location (from list) Republic Creek Observer Name B. Fredlund