Bell Lake Cirque

Date Sat, 11/20/2021 - 11:50 Activity Skiing

Skied from Potosi trailhead up past Bell Lake and on the east shoulder of Thompson Peak. Noticed a recent avalanche (looked cornice fall related) on a different N/NE facing slope at the head of the basin just under a ridge line at around 10,000 ft in elevation. Snowpit at 9100 ft showed many different crusts ranging from the top of the snowpack to the bed surface. Our layers of concern were two distinct crusts 76cm and 80cm from the ground and then a buried layer of small facets between 45-58cm from the ground. The snowpilot data provides further detail. We performed an ECT test with a result of ECTN15 @ ~81cm BRK/Q3. The total snow depth varied slightly in our location but averaged to around 105/110 cm in depth. The surrounding ridgelines had active wind loading but the basin itself was protected. Conditions were clear and calm the entire day.

Region Out of Advisory Area Location (from list) Bell Lake Observer Name Haylee Darby