

Frasier Lake and felt as if we were at a white elephant gift party; we had no idea what kind of conditions we were going to unwrap next. The winds were cranking and the skiing consisted of everything from recycled powder to breakable wind crust, but we left with a smile because we did not find any layers willing to propagate fractures during stability tests in four separate pits. This was encouraging since buried surface hoar was found near Flathead Pass last week. Mark also found stable conditions while skiing in Hyalite yesterday. He did mention the surface snow was weaker than he expected, something we will have to pay attention to as we get more snow.

Although the northern ranges did not receive quite as much snow, pockets of instability can still be found; specifically near the leeward side of ridgelines. For today, human triggered avalanches are possible on slopes steeper than 35 degrees and the avalanche danger is rated MODERATE. Less steep slopes have a LOW avalanche danger.

Doug will issue the next advisory tomorrow morning at 7:30 a.m. If you have any snowpack or avalanche observations, drop us a line at mtavalanche@gmail.com or call us at 587-6984.

Avalanche Education

Avalanche Awareness for Snowmobilers and Skiers, West Yellowstone, Holiday Inn;

Lectures: Saturday, January 1 from 12-5 p.m.; Field: Sunday, January 2 all day.

No Registration Required. ([more information](#))

There are many upcoming avalanche classes in the month of January. Check them on our education page at: <http://www.mtavalanche.com/workshops/calendar>