Natural deep slab avalanche

Date
Sat, 03/30/2024 - 14:45

We toured up to Flanders Mtn. to take down the weather station for the season (before the road closes on Monday, Apr 1). The main observation is a big, deep 2-6' deep avalanche that broke 300-500' wide in weak snow at the bottom of the snowpack. Photos and video attached. It broke across two separate start zones and included a lower angle ridge (still around 30 degrees) in between that slid. E-NE aspect at 9,800'. HS-N-R3-D3-O.

Next to the avalanche debris there was 1-2" of new snow on a thin melt-freeze crust, and the debris seemed to have around 3" of new snow on it. Minimal evidence of recent wind.There was a trace of new snow in the parking lot, 3-6" on most of the trail, I think from the last couple days, and places up high had 10-12" of recent snow where the sun hadn't affected snow from earlier in the week. Today wind was calm with sunny skies becoming partially obscured with light snow showers. We also saw one small dry loose slide in the new snow on a steep north facing slope, and a variety of older crowns including wind slabs near the ridge and one 2-3' deep crown below some cliffs.

Region
Northern Gallatin
Location (from list)
Flanders Creek
Observer Name
Alex Marienthal