

GNFAC Avalanche Advisory for Sat Dec 5, 2015

Good morning. This is Doug Chabot with a very preliminary avalanche advisory for Saturday, December 5. A fully detailed avalanche advisory will be out by 9 a.m.

Last night 6-9 inches of snow fell in our mountains, equaling .6 inches of snow water. Winds are out of the west at 10-20 mph with gusts of 25 mph. This snow fell onto a weak, faceted snowpack and we are concerned about stability, especially on wind-loaded slopes. This is not a large load of snow, but it's the first time the snowpack is being tested.

Today is a day to be conservative in your backcountry travels. Cracking and collapsing of the snowpack is a sign of instability and a warning to avoid avalanche terrain. Throughout our advisory area we are giving all our mountain ranges an avalanche rating of **CONSIDERABLE** danger. We are being cautious in our estimate.

Stay tuned for more information later this morning as we get updated weather and SNOTEL data.

Snowpack and Avalanche Discussion