

# **GNFAC Avalanche Forecast for Fri Nov 15, 2024**

This is Mark Staples with pre-season avalanche, weather and event information for the Gallatin National Forest Avalanche Center on Friday afternoon, November 13th. This information is sponsored by [Highline Partners](#) and **The Friends of The Avalanche Center**. We will update this bulletin as conditions warrant.

## Mountain Weather

A few snowflakes are falling as I write this update on Friday afternoon. By **Saturday morning, 3-4 inches** should accumulate. **Temperatures** will be noticeably colder on Saturday when **winds** will be blowing from the north 10-15 mph with high temperatures in the teens F.

The sun should peak through the clouds briefly Saturday afternoon. Temperatures will warm into the 20s F for Sunday with strong winds from the west blowing 30-40 mph. **A cold front** will cross over the area early Monday bringing some of the coldest air yet, more snowfall (maybe 4-6 inches), and lighter winds.

**Looking ahead** in the weather models - there are no major storms lined up, but there is also no major ridge of high pressure forecasted. At the moment, it seems the pattern will be a series of disturbances and troughs that should bring a few inches of snow here and there which can add up surprisingly fast. Fingers crossed!

## Snowpack and Avalanche Discussion



### All Regions

Snow depths and [SWE](#) across the area are:

- Bridgers: 8" snow/2" SWE
- Hyalite: 15" snow/3.6" SWE
- Big Sky: 9" snow/2" SWE
- West Yellowstone: 12" snow/2.5" SWE
- Island Park: 12" snow/2.8" SWE
- Cooke City: 11" snow/2.6" SWE

With such thin snow, the greatest threat is hitting rocks and stumps; however, [recent avalanche activity](#) proves that there is **more than enough snow for avalanches**. In Hyalite at [History Rock](#) on Thursday, Ian and Dave found between 0" of snow and 18" of snow.

**Fresh wind slabs** are the main avalanche problem, especially by Sunday when strong winds should blow from the west. Early-season avalanches may not bury you, but they will hurt playing pinball with you through the rocks and stumps.

**Hunters** should be especially cautious since they often travel alone and without avalanche rescue gear. Avoid steep slopes with snow deeper than your ankles.

## Upcoming Avalanche Education and Events

Our education calendar is full of awareness lectures and field courses. Check it out: [Events and Education Calendar](#)

Thursday, November 21, 6-7 p.m., [Free Avalanche Awareness for Families and Friends](#) at Story Mill Community Center.

Tuesday, November 26, 6-7 p.m. [Free Avalanche Awareness](#) at REI Bozeman.

Monday, December 2, 6:30 p.m. MAP community partnership night and 1-hr Avalanche Awareness, at MAP Brewing

For an intro class with a field day, Register for our [Avalanche Fundamentals](#) course.

## **Friends Fall Powder Blast Fundraiser!**

We're still counting on your support and the online Fall Powder Blast fundraiser is 76% of the way to our goal. Please consider making even a small donation [HERE](#) or via [Venmo](#)