

Tequila Tour (Hyalite, East Fork)

Date

Mon, 12/11/2023 - 13:00

Activity

Ice Climbing

I went with a party of 4 to check out the ice climb Tequila Tour - what we believe to be "Willis Route" in the guidebook. This is the next significant drainage south of Horsetail Falls on the west side of the east fork valley.

Around the base of the climb (45.43740, -110.91324), we found on an unshaded south facing aspect a snowpack of 30-40cm. Icy crust layer for the bottom 8-10cm with 4F harness and then very fluffy new snow on top.

Lower down near the creek, the snowpack is thinner - much of the recent snow and wind transported snow is up in the trees.

Today, there was a quick dump of new snow, lasting about 30 minutes. The sun came out briefly afterwards.

Our party got to the bottom of P1 and turned around. While we knew the gully between pitches is relatively low angle, we were a bit uncertain about the size and positioning of hanging snowfields above and knew that today's forecast was considerable. Something to revisit later.

Region

Northern Gallatin

Location (from list)

Hyalite - East Fork

Observer Name

Kevin Dice