



Mark Staples points out the weak layer that the avalanche ran on. Large faceted grains, formed by the cold temperatures in early December, was the layer that failed. These sugary grains were overburdened with a thick hard slab 2 feet thick.

Advisory Region  
Cooke City

**Forecast link:** [GNFAC Avalanche Forecast for Tue Jan 5, 2010](#)  
Cooke City, 2010-01-04