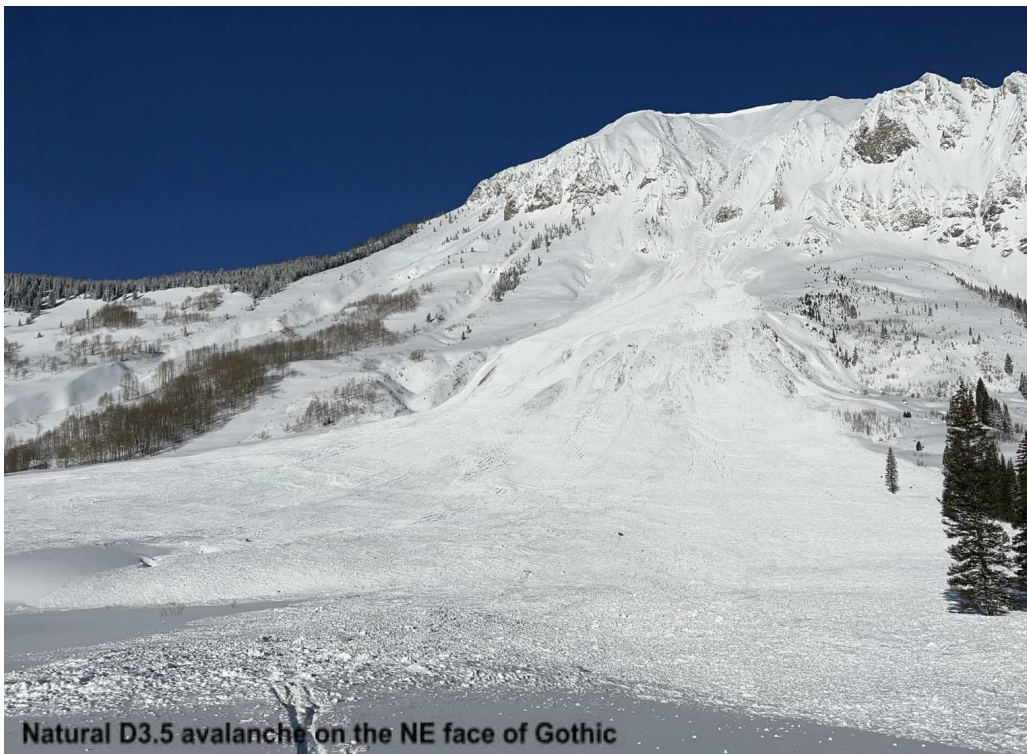


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Zones:	Crested Butte, Northwest & Southeast Mountains

## Friday 3/31

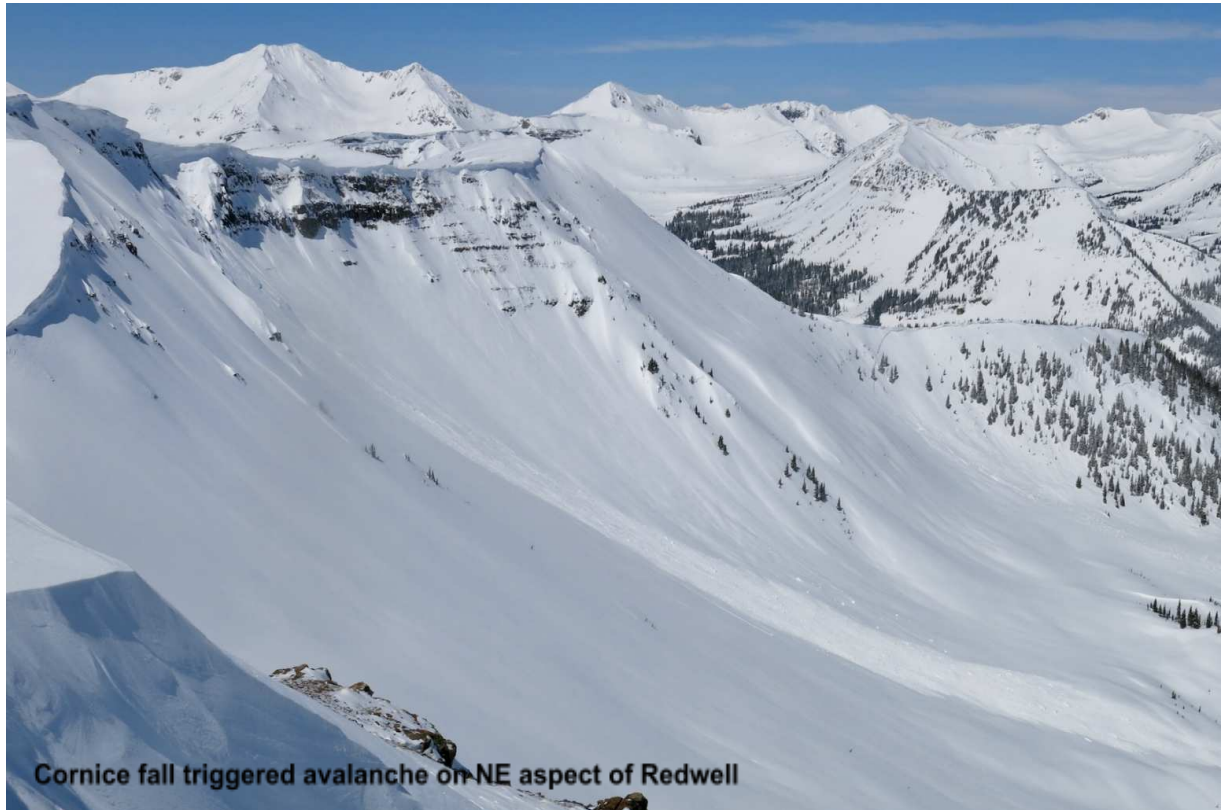
The storm that arrived Thursday afternoon dropped up to 7" in the Northwest Mountains by Friday morning. Snowfall continued throughout the day to bring 24 hour snow totals to 11" at Irwin, Schofield, and CBMR and 24" on Purple Ridge. Strong westerly winds accompanied the snow, creating a wind slab problem and further loading the snowpack. Significant avalanche activity followed this loading, and backcountry users reported 10 avalanches that ran on Friday. One of these was a D3.5 that ran on the NE face of Gothic and hit a RMBL cabin. Another D3 avalanche ran on a SE aspect of Beckwith.



Natural D3.5 avalanche on the NE face of Gothic

## **Saturday 4/1**

Saturday brought clear skies and warm temperatures back to the valley. Daytime highs reached well above freezing, bringing wet loose avalanches back to the valley. Twenty-four wet loose avalanches were observed, all of them on east and southeast aspects. Several cornice fall triggered avalanches were also reported as the combination of wind loading and daytime warming overloaded the cornices.



## **Sunday 4/2**

The clear skies and warm temperatures stuck around for Sunday. Daytime highs climbed even higher than Saturday, contributing to the first reported wet slab avalanche of the season. This ran on a SE aspect in the Timbered Hill Chutes. A wind slab and a cornice drop triggered avalanche were also reported from Star Pass.



## **Monday 4/3**

The beginnings of an extreme wind event arrived overnight leading into Monday and by the afternoon wind speeds in the alpine reached extreme levels. Snowfall held off until the evening and the consistent cloud coverage during the day prevented any wet loose avalanches from releasing.

## **Tuesday 4/4**

Light snowfall continued into Tuesday with occasional periods of more intense snowfall during the day. Storm totals ranged from 4-8 inches with the Northwest Mountains around Schofield Pass receiving the greatest amount. Strong southwest to west winds continued to transport the new snow and produced several D1 to D2 wind slabs and cornice falls at higher elevations. The valley also received a coating of dust in addition to new snow. Underneath this new snow and dust was a crust on top of the old snow surface. The crust was present on all southerly aspects and grew thinner as you trended north.



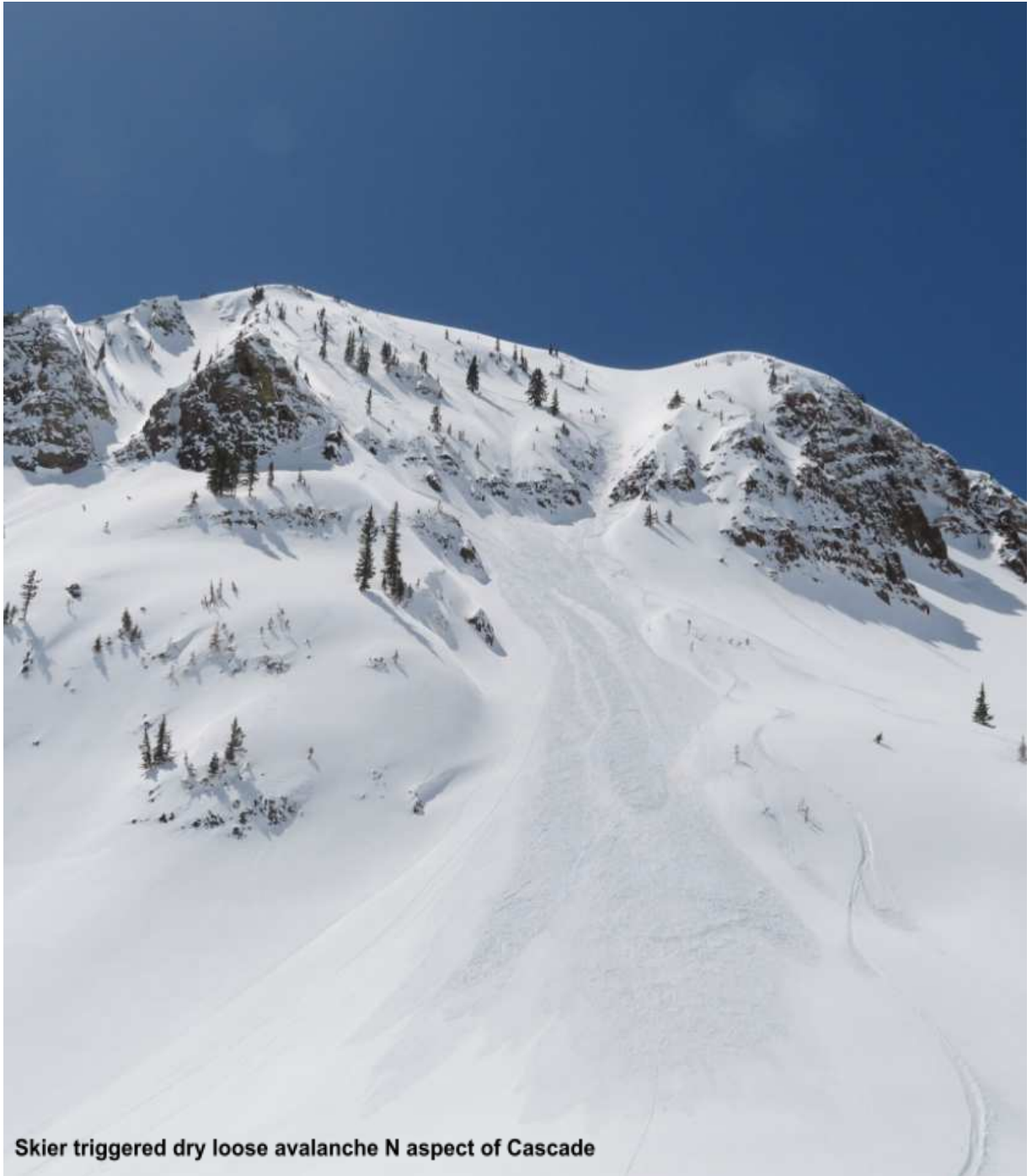
## **Wednesday 4/5**

The skies cleared on Wednesday aside from occasion light snowfall amounting to a trace to an inch. Light to moderate northwest winds held for the majority of the day but produced little snow transport. Loose snow avalanches occurred naturally and as a result of ski cuts on Axtell, and one small wind slab was reported in 4th Bowl. Multiple cornice fall triggered avalanches occurred sometime on Wednesday. These avalanches all were D2 in size and ran on E through N aspects.



#### **Thursday 4/6**

Spring continued to gain a foothold on Thursday. The skies remained clear and the highs crept up into the upper 20's and low 30's. Skiers triggered more dry loose avalanches in addition to the many natural dry loose avalanches that were observed. These dry loose avalanches were all on northerly aspects. Easterly slopes moistened and southerly slopes were wet by the afternoon spurring some wet loose activity on sunnier aspects in the Ruby Range. Looking ahead to the weekend, Saturday could see convection driven snowfall in the afternoon as high clouds move into the valley, however by the beginning of the coming workweek the temperature will be soaring towards the 50's in the mountains.



**Skier triggered dry loose avalanche N aspect of Cascade**