

20190215 Blue Canyon
San Juan Range
CO

Elevation: 8200 ft

Aspect: NE

Specifics: Pit is adjacent to avalanche; Collapsing, widespread; Recent avalanche activity on different slopes

Ben Pritchett

02/15/2019 - 2:30pm

Co-ord:

Slope Angle: 28°

Wind Loading: no

Stability: Poor

Air Temperature: 40°C

Sky Cover: BKN

Precipitation: NO

Wind: NW Light Breeze

HS: 100

PF: 90

Layer Notes:

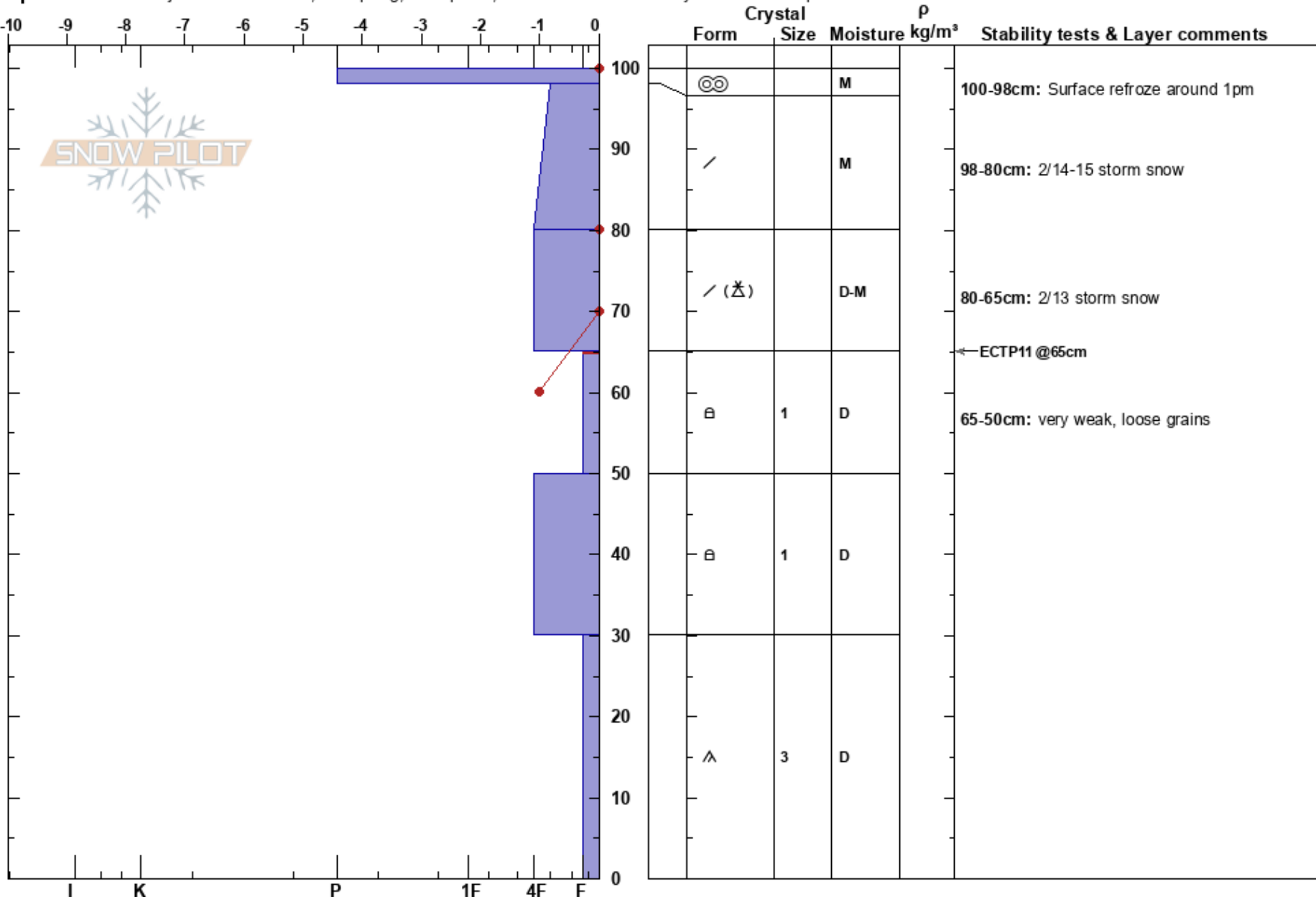
100-98cm: Surface refroze around 1pm

98-80cm: 2/14-15 storm snow

80-65cm: 2/13 storm snow

65-50cm: very weak, loose grains

65-50cm: Problematic layer



Notes: Cooker day in Blue Canyon. Two Wet Slab avalanches hit Hwy 50 at the west end of canyon. Cliffs were dripping and lots of active Loose Wet activity during profile. Profile was done in a shady spot to see if suspect weak layer was wetted in the absence of direct radiation (Maybe from rain the evening prior). The suspect layer at 65cm was dry on this NE-facing slope. Avalanches nearby were all E (not NE like profile) and in the sun. Investigation at the bed surface and in the crown of highway-hit avalanches showed layer at 65cm was wetted.