

# Winter 2012/2013 – Persistent weak layer under a deep snowpack

## Challenges at Alyeska Resort



# **Alyeska Geography**

**Brief weather history**

**Some pictures and 2 short movies**





Monies

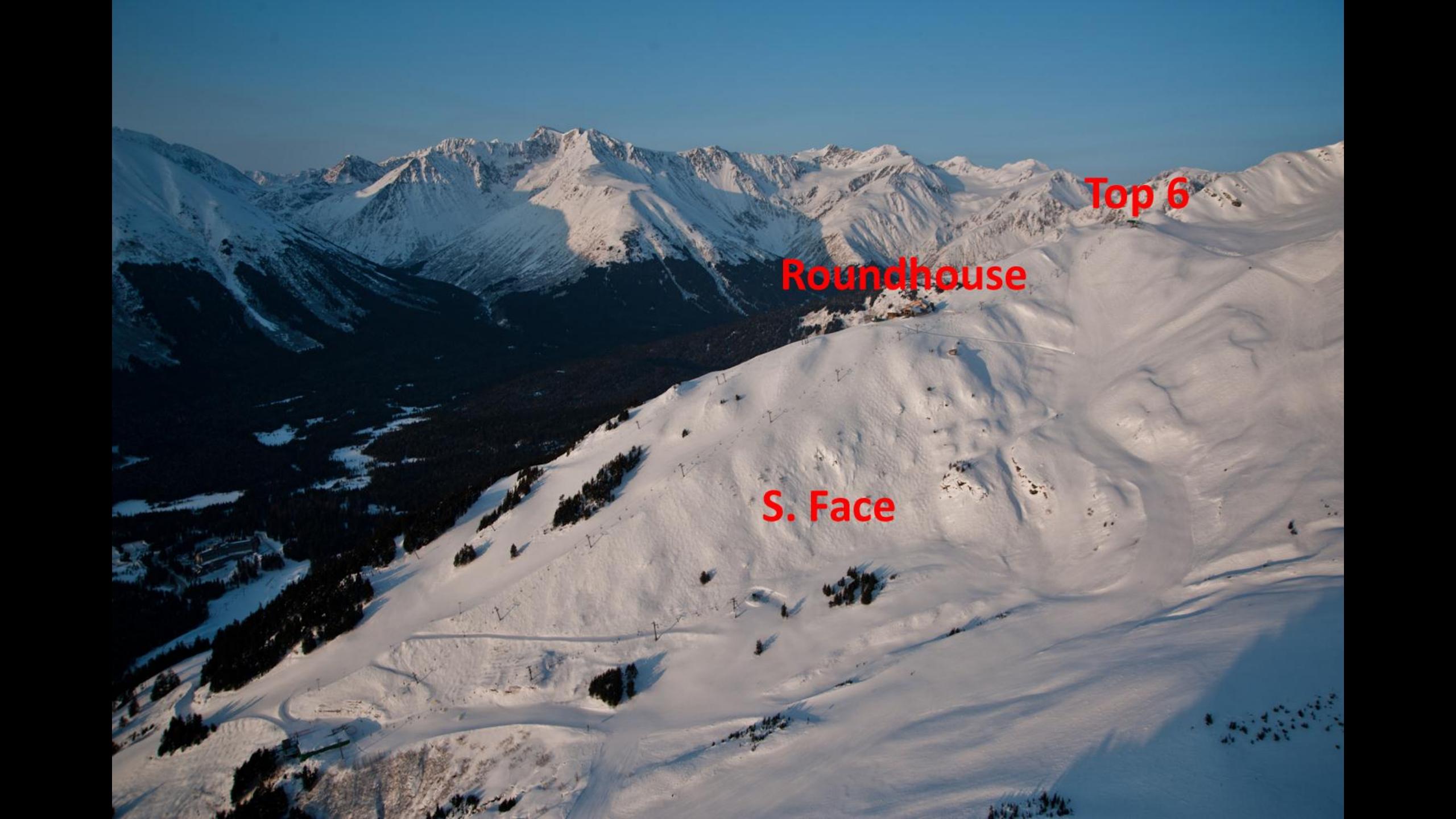
New Yrs  
Xmas

N. Face

Roundhouse

Jim's Branch

Gun 4

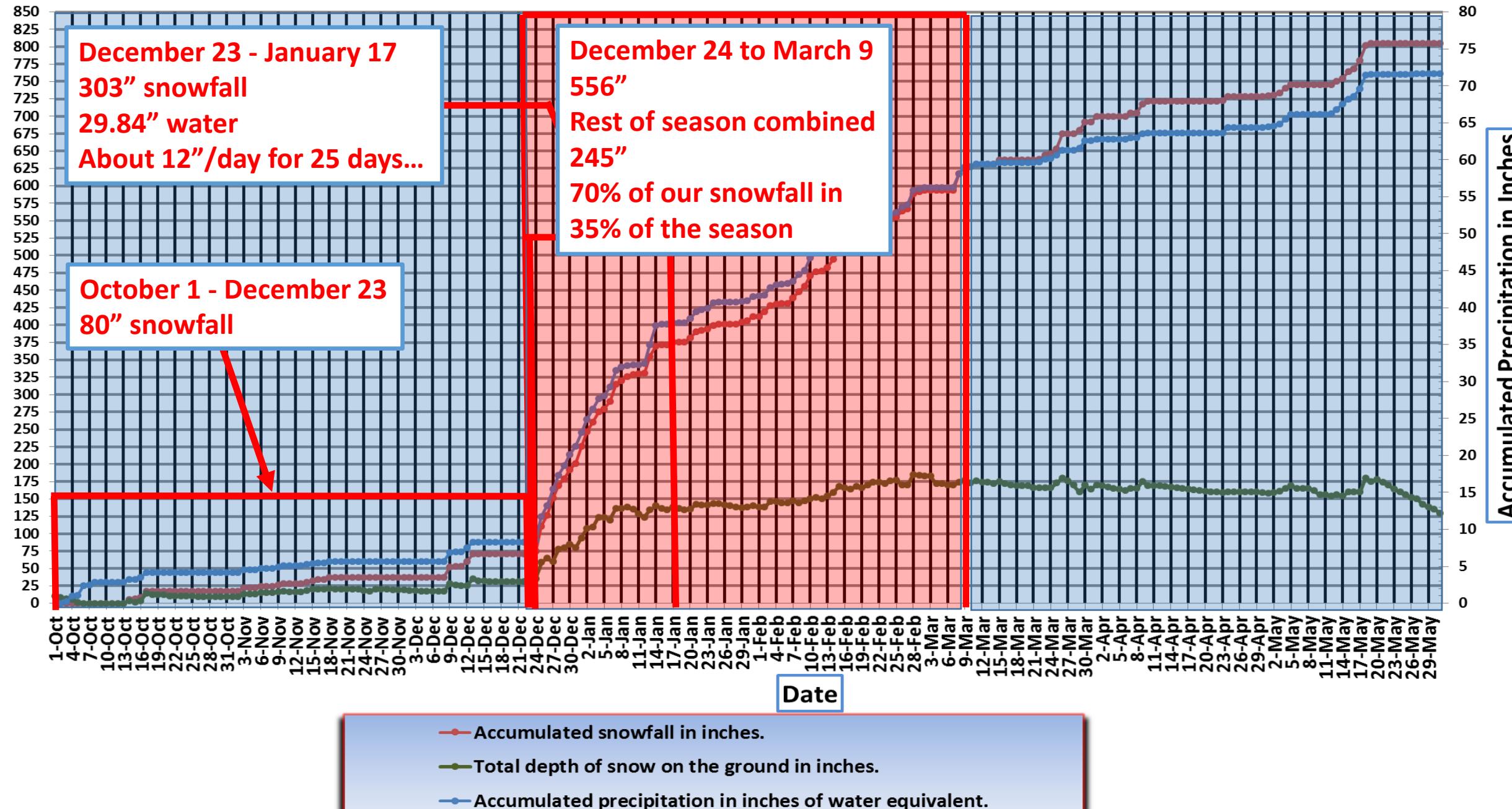
An aerial photograph of a majestic mountain range, likely the Alps, covered in a thick blanket of white snow. The mountains are rugged with many peaks and ridges. In the foreground, a large, rounded mountain face is prominent, with a ski lift visible on its upper slopes. The text 'Top 6' is positioned in the upper right area, 'Roundhouse' is in the middle right, and 'S. Face' is in the lower center of the mountain. The sky is a clear, pale blue.

Top 6

Roundhouse

S. Face

# 2012-2013 Accumulated Snowfall, Accumulated Precipitation, and Total Depth At The Top Weather Station of Mt. Alyeska at 2750'





12/9/2013 – Ashtray

# Mid-December snow pit profile



← 34" over 5 days

← Dec. 7 wind

← Oct/Nov Facets



**12/25/2013 – Looking from the Sundeck over towards the Tram and Pandora's**

A photograph showing a snowy, overcast landscape. In the foreground, several bare, snow-laden trees stand against a hazy, light blue sky. In the distance, a dark, rectangular building, likely the Tram Tower, is visible through the fog. The overall scene is cold and wintry.

**12/25/2013 – Looking down at the Tram Tower  
from the Sundeck.**



12/26/2013 – 'Thursday'



**12/26/2013 – Near the bottom of the Friday gullies.**



12/26/2013 – Bottom of the Friday's.



**12/26/2013 – Skier's left Champagne**

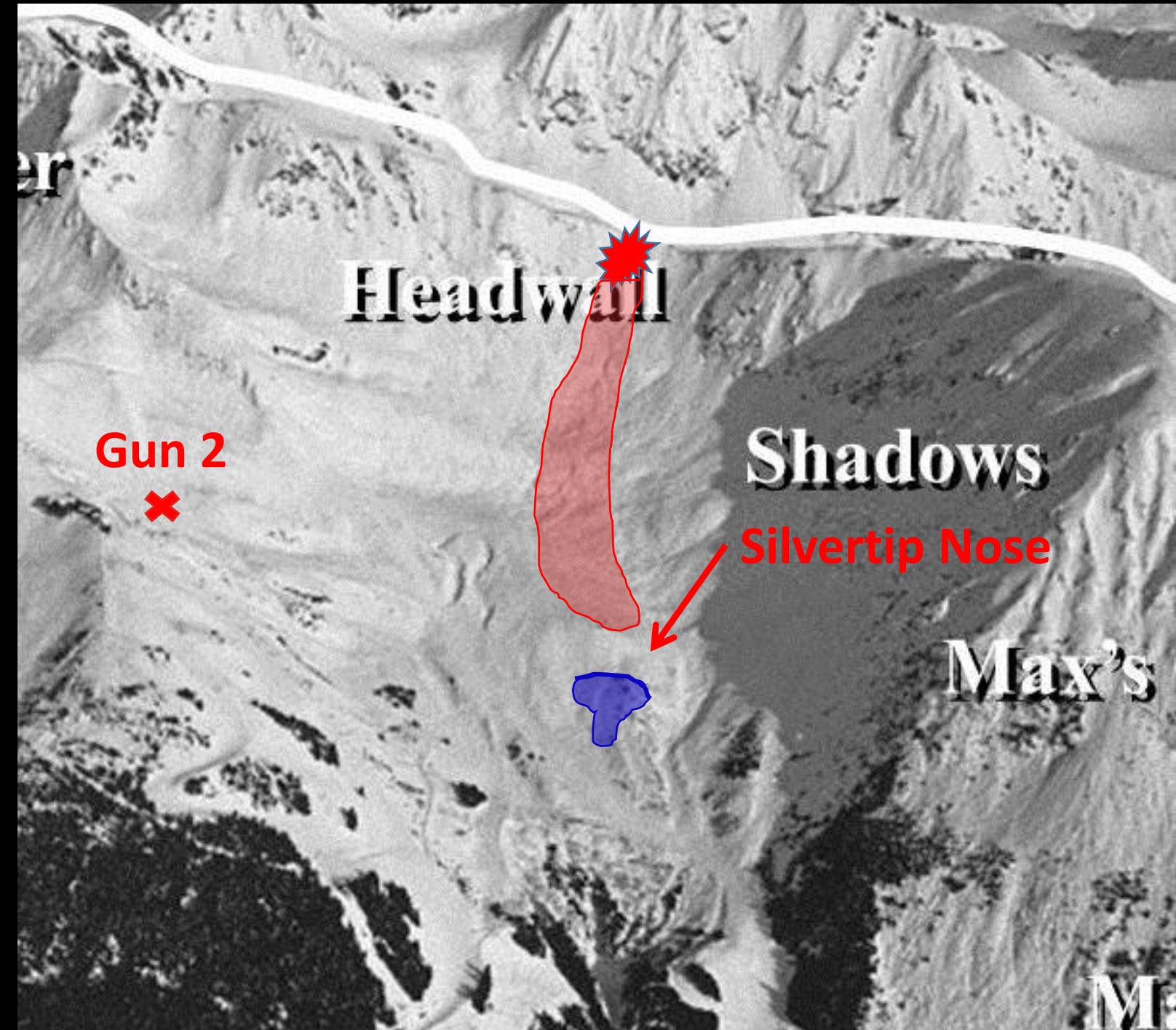


12/26/2013 – Behind Base of 6 Barn off the Jettway

12/26/2013

Silvertip Nose

Sympathetic trigger from  
Saddle Center during gun  
mission.





12/26/2013 – Silvertip Nose – Sympathetic trigger  
from Saddle Center during gun mission.

December 26  
Night search  
Top 4



12/26/2013 – Lift Shack Left / Alder's Right



**Snowboarder boot pack**

**Night skiing boundary**









12/27/2013 – Banjo - Natural



12/27/2013 – Banjo - Natural



12/27/2013 – Banjo - Natural

Photo 1. Eddies natural avalanches



12/28/2013 – Eddie's - Natural

**Fast forward a few days...**

**Continued to snow...**

**By the evening of January 3, we were  
190" into the siege – eager Holiday crowd**

**Employed some social media to pass on  
some information to the skiing public**

Movie

		Temp 24MAX	Temp 24MIN	Temp 1HR	Inch 24HR
1/3/2013	06:00	29	26	27	1.45
1/2/2013	06:00	28	26	27	1.64
1/1/2013	06:00	30	27	27	1.91
12/31/2012	06:00	32	28	28	1.10
12/30/2012	06:00	32	28	30	1.50
12/29/2012	06:00	30	28	29	1.45
12/28/2012	06:00	30	27	29	1.90
12/27/2012	06:00	29	27	28	1.92
12/26/2012	06:00	27	23	27	1.49
12/25/2012	06:00	27	19	24	3.19
12/24/2012	06:00	20	13	19	0.30
12/23/2012	06:00	19	9	15	0.00

January 10, 2013  
Gun 4 Mission  
Monies



1/10/2013 – Gun 4 Mission

© Heather Thamm



1/10/2013 – Gun 4 Mission

© Heather Thamm

1/10/2013 – Gun 4 Mission



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1/14/2013 – Banjo – First ANFO on North



1/14/2013 – North Face ANFO

© Heather Thamm



1/14/2013 – North Face ANFO

© Heather Thamm



1/14/2013 – North Face ANFO



1/14/2013 – North Face ANFO



**View from the top of the North Pole.**

© Heather Thamm



**View from the top of the North Pole.**

© Heather Thamm



© Heather Thamm

1/14/2013 – North Face ANFO



**1/15/2013 – Shot 37 and Pinky ANFO**

© Heather Thamm



1/15/2013 – Shot 37 and Pinky ANFO

© Heather Thamm



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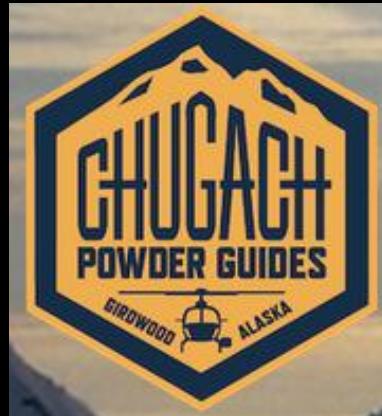






**What did all this look like  
from the IR satellite?**

# Thank you!



# Thank you for your time.



Oct. 10, 2013: Top of the new Glacier Bowl Express and new Top WX station.