

Small, thin wind slabs triggered, Storm Castle Ridge

Moose Jaw

Northern Gallatin

1/18/2023

Code

SS-ASu-R1-D1-S

Latitude

45.44940

Longitude

-111.07600

Notes

Today we toured up Storm Castle Ridge with hopes of skiing the 19th Street [Couloir](#). On the approach we were able to [trigger](#) small (2-4") wind slabs on most lee aspects, these slides ran fast and far for their size. We dug a pit at 9200' on a North [aspect](#) and we're able to identify the [surface hoar](#) but had no results on our ECT. With 2 spotters I dug an ECT 10m below the top of the 19th Street [Couloir](#) and got an ECTP12@ 35cm below the surface. The [slab](#) was 35cm thick, pencil hardness and failed on [faceted snow](#); the buried [surface hoar](#) found in most other pits was not present. We bailed to the opposite side of the ridge and enjoyed some wonderful burn skiing.

Number of slides

1

Number caught

0

Number buried

0

Avalanche Type

Soft slab avalanche

Trigger

Skier

Trigger Modifier

u-An unintentional release

R size

1

D size

1

Bed Surface

S - Avalanche released within new snow

Problem Type

Wind-Drifted Snow

Slab Thickness

3.0 inches

Images

[Small, thin wind slab avalanches, Hyalite](#)

Snow Observation Source

[Poor test scores on Storm Castle Ridge](#)

Slab Thickness units

inches

Single / Multiple / Red Flag

Single Avalanche

Advisory Year

[22-23](#)