

# Deep Slab Avalanche at Big Sky

Big Sky Resort  
Northern Madison  
1/28/2019  
Code  
HS-AEc-R4-D3-O  
Notes

Big Sky Ski Patrol triggered a deep [hard slab avalanche](#) during control work on January 28th, breaking on a [weak layer](#) of facets that formed in early December.

From email: "This [slide](#) failed on our layer of greatest concern and had recently been loaded up with 60cm of 1F [wind slab](#) from our consistent snowfall over the past 11 days. Crown depth ranged from 3-5' and consensus is that it was about 300' wide. " - BSSP

Number of slides

1

Number caught

0

Number buried

0

Avalanche Type

Hard slab avalanche

Trigger

An explosive thrown or placed on or under the snow surface by hand

Trigger Modifier

c-A controlled or intentional release by the indicated trigger

R size

4

D size

3

Bed Surface

O - Old snow

Slab Thickness

48.0 inches

Vertical Fall

300ft

Slab Width

300.00ft

Weak Layer Grain type

Faceted Crystals

Slab Thickness units

inches

Single / Multiple / Red Flag

Single Avalanche

Advisory Year

[18-19](#)