

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](#)