

Skier triggered avalanche and partial burial near Fairy Lake

Fairy Lake

Bridger Range

1/18/2019

Code

SS-ASr-R3-D1.5-O

Aspect

NE

Notes

"The [slide](#) occurred near Fairy Lake in the Bridgers. Specifically, it occurred on a NE face just below the first set of switchbacks on the summer trail, where the slope steepens significantly. I was out early touring solo hoping to catch sunrise from the bowl. I'd just started traversing north along the base of the face when I saw a small [slab](#) release behind me which sent some sluff across my tracks, I turned to descend to some lower angle terrain, and saw another small release (20-30ft wide) in front of me. As I started to descend the whole face let go from about 150ft above me and funneled towards me. It carried me about 100ft downslope, luckily through an open patch in the trees. I was buried up to my chest, with both my arms free. From what I could see from the bottom, the crown looked to be about 4-8 inches tall, and was about 200ft across."

Number of slides

1

Number caught

1

Number buried

1

Avalanche Type

Soft slab avalanche

Trigger

Skier

Trigger Modifier

r-A remote avalanche released by the indicated trigger

R size

3

D size

1.5

Bed Surface

O - Old snow

Problem Type

Wind-Drifted Snow

Slab Thickness

8.0 inches

Slab Width

200.00ft

Images

[Avalanche crown, Bridger Range](#)

Attached Videos

[Avalanche Incident, Bridger Range](#)

Slab Thickness units

inches

Single / Multiple / Red Flag

Single Avalanche

Advisory Year

18-19