

Large Deep Slab Avalanche at Big Sky

Big Sky Resort
Northern Madison
1/26/2019
Code
HS-AEc-R4-D3.5-G
Latitude
45.27800
Longitude
-111.45000
Notes

Big Sky Ski Patrol triggered a large [deep slab avalanche](#) during control work this morning, with a crown depth up to 10 feet deep. From the e-mail: "This is generally one of our most heavily wind loaded areas on the mountain with any wind with a westerly component. It ran on a combo of ground and an ice crust that was sitting in a recessed area, probably leftover October snow. Crown depth ranged from 10' near the [cornice](#) but quickly tapered to an average of 3-5'." -BSSP

Number of slides

1

Number caught

0

Number buried

0

Number killed

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

3.5

Bed Surface

G - Ground

Problem Type

Persistent Weak Layer

Slab Thickness

60.0 inches

Slab Layer Grain Type

Wind packed

Slab Thickness units

inches

Single / Multiple / Red Flag

Single Avalanche

Advisory Year
[18-19](#)