Explosive triggered slide at Big Sky

Big Sky Resort Northern Madison 11/6/2018 Code HS-ABc-R3-D2-O Elevation 10901

Aspect

N

Latitude

45.27830

Longitude

-111.44900

Notes

"We triggered a large avalanche in the Cirque with a 5lb. shot dangled from the Tram. The sslidebroke 3' deep and took out the Dobies, Cron's and part of the Ramp Shot avalanche paths. Hard slab-slabinus generally. Storm slab frslabhe past 8 days. The slide raslidea crust that formed from the left over snow from mid-October that got warmed in the 3rd week of October. The weweak layers just a thin layer of lower density snow trapped under the hard slabs- didn't seem to be particularly faceted. Some grauple. The crust is not very hard or slick, about 2cm thick, and crumbled easily in hand... The slidslide good proppropagation the crown was at least 300' long- impressive debris pile." -Big Sky Ski Patrol

Number of slides

Number caught

Number buried

Avalanche Type

Hard slab avalanche

Trigger

An explosive detonated above the snow surface (air blast)

Trigger Modifier

c-A controlled or intentional release by the indicated trigger

R size

3

D size

Bed Surface

O - Old snow

Slab Thickness

36.0

Slab Width

300.00ft

Weak Layer Grain type

Precipitation Particles

Weak Layer Hardness F+ Slab Layer Hardness 1F-Single / Multiple / Red Flag Multiple Avalanches Advisory Year 18-19