

Climber triggered wind slab in Flanders

Flanders Creek
Northern Gallatin
11/11/2018
Code
SS-AFu-R0-D1-O
Elevation
9000
Aspect
SE
Latitude
45.44290
Longitude
-110.93200
Notes

Climbers triggered this very small [wind slab](#) on the way to a climb up Flanders in Hyalite (11/11). A tiny [slide](#) to a skier can be bad news for a climber since losing one's balance or getting pushed off a cliff can be deadly. From an email (edited):

Hyalite Snow Conditions:...we dug two hasty pits on east facing slopes in Flanders....

8200'- isolated opening in trees in an area on rocks, shallower snow (~50cm). CT12 at the ground, again just tapping on the back of other hand, so not super legit, but did raise eyebrows.

8450'- Opening below cliff bands on exposed traverse. Deeper snow (~80-90cm). No concerns other than storm snow and snow coming off of cliff bands. Classic Hyalite shifty winds. We released a small (10-15cm) storm [slab](#) traverse into the climb .

Weather: It was snowing and blowing all day.

Photo: S. Magro

Number of slides

1

Number caught

0

Number buried

0

Avalanche Type

Soft slab avalanche

Trigger

Foot penetration

Trigger Modifier

u-An unintentional release

R size

0

D size

1

Bed Surface

O - Old snow

Problem Type

Wind Slab

Images

[Small wind slab triggered in Flanders](#)

Slab Thickness units

centimeters

Single / Multiple / Red Flag

Multiple Avalanches

Advisory Year

[18-19](#)