Large Collapse near Fairy Lake

Fairy Lake Bridger Range 1/5/2019 Code SS-ASu-O Notes

From e-mail: "We went up to Fairy Lake yesterday... to the north facing trees right off of the lake. The wind has really done a number on the whole area, I haven't seen it like this before. Anyway we started up and the snow was really weird. We'd be on top of a hard winwind slabd then ten feet later punch through it and be wallowing in sugar up to our knees.... the weirdness continued as we tried working east and west across the face looking for more stable snow. After we'd climbed about 350 feet above the lake I had a big whoomp and the snow I was on collapsed about a foot, and cracks shot out about 50 feet from me. This was at about 8:30 yesterday morning."

Seperate group, same area: "ECTP 3 on a northwest exposure. Snow depth was about 60 cm where this test was taken. Dug another pit on same aspect with a 120cm base, which fractured at 27 hits, but did not propegate."

Number of slides

1

Number caught

0

Number buried

0

Avalanche Type

Soft slab avalanche

Trigger

Skier

Trigger Modifier

u-An unintentional release

Bed Surface

O - Old snow

Problem Type

Persistent Weak Layer

Slab Thickness units

centimeters

Single / Multiple / Red Flag

Single Avalanche

Advisory Year

18-19