

Skier triggered 2 wind slabs on Abiathar

Abiathar Peak

Out of Advisory Area

1/2/2021

Code

SS-ASu-R2-D1.5-I

Elevation

10500

Aspect

N

Latitude

44.97560

Longitude

-110.03100

Notes

Skiers triggered a [wind slab](#) while ascending the north [couloir](#) on Abiathar Peak on 1/2/21. On their descent they triggered another similar sized [slab](#). They were not caught or injured, and felt lucky to "dodge a bullet".

From email: "We approached Abiathar north cirque intending to climb and ski the north [couloir](#). Two extended column tests were performed and it was determined that the main threat was new snow on shallow facets... At approx 10,500' the first member of our party released the first [slab](#) so we pulled the plug and began to prepare for descent. Upon descent, I dropped first and faded left to eddy out behind a rock outcrop and released the second [slab](#) which broke just upslope of me. I was able to edge into the bed [bed surfaced](#) the [slab](#) past without incident."

Number of slides

2

Number caught

0

Number buried

0

Avalanche Type

Soft slab avalanche

Trigger

Skier

Trigger Modifier

u-An unintentional release

R size

2

D size

1.5

Bed Surface

I - Interface between new and old snow

Problem Type

Wind-Drifted Snow

Slab Thickness

10.0 inches

Slab Width

15.00ft

Images

[Skier triggered wind slab on Abiathar, second](#)

[Skier triggered wind slab on Abiathar](#)

Slab Thickness units

inches

Single / Multiple / Red Flag

Multiple Avalanches

Advisory Year

[20-21](#)