

Snowmobile Triggered Avalanche in Black Canyon

Island Park

1/19/2024

Code

SS-AMu-R3-D2-O

Latitude

44.54760

Longitude

-111.23900

Notes

From interaction at the gas station:

“We were riding out from Island Park. We saw dramatic, collapses, and shooting cracks. I side-hilled a small slope and triggered it 1.5 to 2 feet deep. I have never seen such unstable snow.”

The avalanche likely failed on a layer of [surface hoar](#) widespread in the Lionhead and Island Park areas. The avalanche buried part of the groomed road that crosses below this slope.

Number of slides

1

Number caught

0

Number buried

0

Avalanche Type

Soft slab avalanche

Trigger

Snowmobile

Trigger Modifier

u-An unintentional release

R size

3

D size

2

Bed Surface

O - Old snow

Problem Type

Persistent Weak Layer

Slab Thickness

18.0 inches

Vertical Fall

50ft

Slab Width

100.00ft

Weak Layer Grain type

Surface Hoar

Images

[Snowmobile Triggered Avalanche in Black Canyon 2](#)

[Snowmobile Triggered Avalanche in Black Canyon](#)

Snow Observation Source

[Snowmobile Triggered Avalanche in Black Canyon](#)

Slab Thickness units

inches

Single / Multiple / Red Flag

Single Avalanche

Advisory Year

[23-24](#)