

Rider Triggered Avalanche, Chimney Rock

Henderson Mountain

Cooke City

12/6/2022

Code

HS-AMu-R2-D2-O

Elevation

9800

Aspect

NW

Latitude

45.05240

Longitude

-109.94500

Notes

There was a human-triggered avalanche near Chimney Rock on Henderson Mountain. The avalanche failed on weak snow near the ground. We believe a snowmobiler triggered the slope.

From GNFAC visit to crown 12/8: "We rode to Daisy Pass to look at the avalanche that was triggered by a snowmobiler two days ago (12/6/22). It was on the slope east of the pass that people often climb up and out, steeper than the normal route out. It broke 2-3 feet deep and 250-300' wide, R2-D2. At the crown it broke on a [weak layer](#) about 100cm above the ground, but it broke closer to the ground in many places lower on the slope where the snowpack was shallower and weaker. I would guess one of those areas is where it was triggered from."

Number of slides

1

Number caught

0

Number buried

0

Avalanche Type

Hard slab avalanche

Trigger

Snowmobile

Trigger Modifier

u-An unintentional release

R size

2

D size

2

Bed Surface

O - Old snow

Problem Type

Persistent Weak Layer

Slab Thickness

30.0 inches

Vertical Fall

350ft

Slab Width

300.00ft

Weak Layer Grain type

Faceted Crystals

Slab Layer Grain Type

Wind packed

Images

[Chimney Rock Crown Profile - 8 Dec 2022](#)

[Snowmobiler triggered avalanche, Chimney Rock, down path](#)

[Snowmobiler triggered avalanche, Chimney Rock - crown](#)

[Snowmobiler triggered avalanche, Chimney Rock](#)

Attached Videos

[Snowmobiler triggered avalanche, Cooke City - 8 Dec 2022](#)

Snow Observation Source

[Snowmobile triggered crown profile and more pits](#)

Slab Thickness units

inches

Single / Multiple / Red Flag

Single Avalanche

Advisory Year

[22-23](#)