

Skier caught and buried at Bridger

Bridger Bowl

Bridger Range

12/15/2024

Code

SS-R3-D2-S

Aspect

E

Latitude

45.82310

Longitude

-110.92600

Notes

From Bridger Bowl: "On December 15th, 2024 at 12:09 p.m., a skier in open terrain was caught and buried by an avalanche in the Papa Bear region below Bridger Gully. The skier, who was with a partner, was buried just below the snow surface and was able to punch a hole up through the top of the snow. The skier's partner and other members of the skiing public responded quickly and were able to extricate the uninjured skier.

Although rare, inbounds avalanches may happen and are defined in the skier's responsibility code as an inherent risk of skiing, even within ski area boundaries. We share this as a reminder of the importance of skiing and riding with a partner, especially in deep snow conditions."

Notes about snowpack:

Slide was 8 inches deep, 450 feet wide, and broke within the storm snow 2 inches above the new snow/old snow interface. Trigger unknown.

The Alpine weather station received 2.5" snow = 0.2" SWE from 2200 on 12/14 to 0300 on 12/15, then intense snowfall from 0700 to 1200 added 7" and 1" SWE for a storm total of 9.5"=1.2" SWE over 14 hours as of noon.

Number of slides

1

Number caught

1

Number buried

1

Avalanche Type

Soft slab avalanche

R size

3

D size

2

Bed Surface

S - Avalanche released within new snow

Problem Type

Storm Slab

Slab Thickness

8.0 inches

Vertical Fall

600ft

Slab Width

450.00ft

Weak Layer Grain type

Precipitation Particles

Slab Layer Grain Type

Precipitation Particles

Images

[Bridger Gully Avalanche](#)

Snow Observation Source

[Skier caught and buried at Bridger](#)

Slab Thickness units

inches

Single / Multiple / Red Flag

Single Avalanche

Advisory Year

[24-25](#)