

Two skiers caught in avalanche on Ross Peak

Ross Peak

Bridger Range

12/5/2022

Code

SS-ASu-R2-D1.5

Elevation

8500

Aspect

SE

Latitude

45.85860

Longitude

-110.95600

Notes

Two skiers triggered an avalanche while ascending the Banana [Couloir](#) on Ross Peak on the morning of 12/5/22. The skiers were approximately 150 ft from the top of the [couloir](#). The avalanche broke 20 ft above the upper skier. The [slide](#) broke in wind drifted snow 6 inches deep and approximately 30 ft wide, across most of the [couloir](#). The lower skier was waiting in a "safe spot on the side" but was also caught by the [slide](#). The [slide](#) ran ~600 vertical feet, pulling out a deeper pocket of snow (1.5-2 ft deep) midway down the path. Both skiers were fully submerged as they were carried, but ended up partially buried near the toe of the debris. One skier had snow packed into his mouth and underneath his eyelids. They returned to the trailhead under their own power.

Number of slides

1

Number caught

2

Number buried

2

Avalanche Type

Soft slab avalanche

Trigger

Skier

Trigger Modifier

u-An unintentional release

R size

2

D size

1.5

Problem Type

Wind-Drifted Snow

Slab Thickness

6.0 inches

Vertical Fall

600ft

Slab Width

30.00ft

Images

[Avalanche on Ross Peak](#)

[Looking up skier triggered slide on Ross Peak](#)

Slab Thickness units

inches

Single / Multiple / Red Flag

Single Avalanche

Advisory Year

[22-23](#)