

Skier caught in Crazies (outside forecast area)

Other place

Out of Advisory Area

3/18/2023

Code

SS-ASu-R4-D2-I

Elevation

10000

Aspect

NE

Latitude

45.65530

Longitude

-110.55800

Notes

Myself and two partners were skiing in the crazies 3/17-3/18. Dug 2 pits and got similar results, ectn15 18cm down and n28 30cm down with depths of 300-400cm and no deeper pwls on N/NE aspects at 8300ft and 9600ft. No recent avalanche activity other than a few small 6in storm/wind slabs on southern aspects. Snowpack was very right side up everywhere we toured and had skied 3 different NW to E faces. On 3/18 we headed to ski a NE facing [couloir](#) at 10000ft, skinned/booted the first ~300ft and found similar snow to everywhere else. About halfway up hit a rocky section with some [depth hoar](#), I noted plate crystals up to 1cm wide at ground. Should've turned around there but thought maybe it was just a short rocky section. I had also just measured the slope angle at 52 degrees which gave me false confidence there would be no developed [slab](#). Wallowed through weaker snow for another ~50ft then finally decided to turn around due to the difficult boot packing, hitting our 3pm turn around time, and the weak snow pack. As I booted to the middle of the line to find better snow the [slab](#) broke off 10-20ft above me wall to wall. I was the only one caught and was carried 500ft of vertical. Didn't get buried and no lost gear so extremely lucky all around. The avalanche was estimated D2/R4 with a 18-30in crown and 30ft wide.

Number of slides

1

Number caught

0

Number buried

0

Avalanche Type

Soft slab avalanche

Trigger

Skier

Trigger Modifier

u-An unintentional release

R size

4

D size

2

Bed Surface

I - Interface between new and old snow

Slab Thickness

24.0 inches

Vertical Fall

500ft

Slab Width

30.00ft

Snow Observation Source

[Crazy mountains avalanche and obs](#)

Slab Thickness units

inches

Single / Multiple / Red Flag

Single Avalanche

Advisory Year

[22-23](#)