Natural wide wind slab on Saddle Peak

Saddle Peak
Bridger Range
12/17/2019
Code
HS-N-R2-D2-U
Elevation
9000
Aspect
E
Latitude
45.79430
Longitude
-110.93600
Notes

Avalanche crown(s) seen Wednesday (12/18), probably ran Monday or early Tuesday. Broke 200-300' across between the peaks and south central. Debris ran 1,500' vertical. Photo: GNFAC

Additional info from a skier on 12/19/19:

"Hard to tell how deep it was. Looked like 15” max maybe. Tapered off quick. Looked like probably that south wind load.

One crown was north between the peaks about 60 ft from the ridge top. Then it seemed to take the legs out of the stuff in South Central since the crown was 150 ft below ridge top. Then a little dribble made its way into Argentina bowl on the south aspect. Debris terminated right at the bottom of each chute.

Since the crown was so low I never got eyes on it. Plus it has blown in a little. I stayed high near the ridge line to the pinnacles. But it looked and felt like a bomber crust is what it ran on. Hard slab with pretty small chunks in the debris.

The one picture didn’t come out well but it looked like goat tracks went right into that higher north crown. Maybe a dead goat... they are usually pretty smart though."

Number of slides
1
Number caught
0
Number buried
0
Avalanche Type
Hard slab avalanche
Trigger
Natural trigger
R size
2
D size
2

Bed Surface
U - Unknown
Problem Type
Wind-Drifted Snow
Slab Thickness
12.0 inches
Vertical Fall
1500ft
Slab Width
250.00ft
Images
Saddle Peak Avalanche
Saddle Peak Avalanche
Slab Thickness units
inches
Single / Multiple / Red Flag
Single Avalanche
Advisory Year
19-20