

Large natural avalanche on Saddle Peak

Saddle Peak
Bridger Range
1/6/2023
Code
N-R2-D2.5-O
Elevation
9000
Aspect
E
Latitude
45.79430
Longitude
-110.93600
Notes

At 1:30 PM on Jan 6th a large avalanche poured over the cliffs on Saddle Peak, outside the boundaries of Bridger Bowl. Clouds obscured the [starting zone](#). Multiple groups were in the [runout zone](#), including a skier hitting a jump. One person was caught and buried up to his neck. He was able extricate himself and was unharmed. He did a beacon search at the toe of the debris. He estimated the debris was at least six feet deep.

We believe this was a natural avalanche that broke in the new and wind drifted snow which then broke into older snow. Bridger Bowl measured 6" of new snow with 0.75 inches of [Snow Water Equivalent](#) at the Alpine Wx. Station. The avalanche was estimated to be 2 feet deep, and measured on Google Earth to be 550 feet wide and 1700 feet long.

Number of slides
1
Number caught
1
Number buried
1
Trigger
Natural trigger
R size
2
D size
2.5
Bed Surface
O - Old snow
Problem Type
Persistent Slab
Slab Thickness
24.0 inches
Vertical Fall
1700ft
Slab Width
550.00ft

Images

[Debris from natural avalanche on Saddle](#)

[Crown up close on Saddle Peak](#)

[Saddle Peak Avalanche_crown and snowpit marked](#)

[Saddle Peak Avalanche_full length from gun mount](#)

[Saddle Peak Avalanche_crown close-up](#)

[Saddle Peak Avalanche_from road, wide](#)

[Saddle Peak Avalanche_from road](#)

[Saddle Peak avalanche](#)

[Saddle Peak pit and avalanche](#)

Attached Videos

[Not too stoked...Saddle Peak, 3 Jan](#)

[Snow Observation Source](#)

[Large avalanche on Saddle Peak](#)

Slab Thickness units

inches

Single / Multiple / Red Flag

Single Avalanche

Advisory Year

[22-23](#)