Remotely triggered avalanche Lionhead

Lionhead Ridge
Lionhead Range
2/16/2024
Code
HS-AMr-R3-D2-O
Elevation
8900
Aspect
N
Latitude
44.71450
Longitude
-111.31800
Notes

On 2/16/24 we saw a fresh avalanche in Watkins Creek that we think was triggered remotely during the day by a group riding in a flat meadow above, where we saw their tracks at least 150 feet away (photo). This slide was 2-3' deep and 100-150' feet wide, breaking on old sugary snow. HS-R3/4-D2-O. We rode along the flat terrain above the avalanche and could feel our sled tracks punch through the supportable slab into weak snow at the bottom of the snowpack.

We felt a couple collapses while sitting on our sleds, and saw a couple long shooting cracks while riding. We dug a snowpit in Targhee creek on a northwest facing slope at 9,435'. We had an ECTP27 below a 2.5' deep slab, sitting on 1.5' of weak sugary snow.

Number of slides
1
Number caught
0
Number buried
0
Avalanche Type
Hard slab avalanche
Trigger
Snowmobile
Trigger Modifier
r-A remote avalanche released by the indicated trigger
R size
3
D size
2
Bed Surface
O - Old snow
Problem Type
Persistent Weak Layer
Slab Thickness
32.0 inches

Vertical Fall
200ft
Slab Width
150.00ft
Images
Remotely triggered large avalanche, Lionhead
Snow Observation Source
Fresh avalanche and many recent avalanches
Slab Thickness units
inches
Single / Multiple / Red Flag
Single Avalanche
Advisory Year
23-24