

Skier Triggered Avalanche Saddle Peak

Saddle Peak

Bridger Range

3/8/2024

Code

SS-AS-R2-D2

Elevation

8100

Aspect

E

Latitude

45.79430

Longitude

-110.93600

Notes

There were two skier-triggered avalanches on Saddle Peak today. The first was relatively small, estimated depth of less than a foot. The second occurred later in the day and was much more significant.

Downhill winds transported snow all day, [loading](#) wind-drifted snow onto slopes at upper and mid-elevations. At 1 PM, a solo skier descended Quarter Saddle toward Spencer's and Going Home Chute. The skier released a wind-[slab](#) avalanche that broke about a foot deep approximately 300 feet above the large cliff band on Saddle. The first release triggered a secondary [slab](#) that broke more widely (estimated 200' wide) and deeper (1-3 feet deep). The avalanche ran over the large cliffs into Going Home Chute. Bridger Bowl Ski Patrol interviewed the skier who triggered the avalanche along with a representative from GCSAR and the GNFAC. Based on the interview, the group believed it was unlikely that additional skiers were involved. Because of the interview, concerns about scene safety, and the timing of the avalanche, no search was performed on the ground. The team used binoculars from within the boundary of the ski area to look for obvious indications of a burial.

Number of slides

2

Number caught

0

Number buried

0

Avalanche Type

Soft slab avalanche

Trigger

Skier

R size

2

D size

2

Problem Type

Wind-Drifted Snow

Slab Thickness

24.0 inches

Vertical Fall

900ft

Slab Width

200.00ft

Images

[Saddle Peak Avalanche Lower Crown](#)

[Saddle Peak Avalanche Upper Crown](#)

[Saddle Peak Avalanche Overview](#)

Slab Thickness units

inches

Single / Multiple / Red Flag

Multiple Avalanches

Advisory Year

[23-24](#)