

Natural Avalanche in Beehive Basin

Beehive Basin

Northern Madison

11/19/2022

Code

SS-ASu-R1-D1.5-G

Elevation

9000

Aspect Range

WSW

Latitude

45.34070

Longitude

-111.39100

Notes

My partner and I were skinning up a west-facing slope in Beehive Basin when we stopped out of the wind at a large rock outcrop.

Shortly after stopping to re-assess, a small, wind-deposited, pocket of snow popped off the rock face above us triggering a soft-[slab slide](#) which gained momentum and stepped down through a rocky choke, fanning out in the open face below the rocks, before coming to a stop directly at our skis.

We witnessed no additional natural avalanches that day or found any significant instabilities in the snowpack on adjacent slopes. We can only attribute our near-miss to luck, if the avalanche had occurred five minutes before we stopped (while skinning across the slope), or five minutes after (while continuing upslope to our desired objective), our day might have ended quite differently.

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

1

D size

1.5

Bed Surface

G - Ground

Problem Type

Wind-Drifted Snow

Images

[Natural Wind Slab Avalanche in Beehive](#)

[Natural Avalanche in Beehive 1](#)

Attached Videos

[Natural Avalanche in Beehive](#)

Snow Observation Source

[Natural Wind-Pocket Soft-Slab Release](#)

[Natural Avalanche in Beehive Basin](#)

Slab Thickness units

centimeters

Single / Multiple / Red Flag

Single Avalanche

Advisory Year

[22-23](#)