

## Whumph on The Sphinx

Sphinx Mountain  
Northern Madison  
10/5/2019  
Code  
AF-O  
Elevation  
9000  
Aspect  
N  
Latitude  
45.15820  
Longitude  
-111.47700  
Notes

From e-mail on Saturday 10/5, climbers on the Sphinx found these conditions: "We found a lot of snow on the Sphinx today following heavy precip since Sam's report two days ago [see photo]. 3-5 cm in the parking lot, 20 cm at the Sphinx-Helmet col. Moderate SW winds had created drifts almost a meter deep in places on the traverse to the ice routes on the north face. I backed off after a whumph on a particularly exposed section of the traverse. We tried different ledge systems above and below the normal approach route but found similar snow conditions throughout."

Photo: From 10/3 prior to 8-10" new snow, "No snow hazard of much concern on the approach. However, a quick hasty pit in an isolated wind pocket revealed a CT1 on this layer. ice axe is to the ground."

Number of slides  
0  
Number caught  
0  
Number buried  
0  
Trigger  
Foot penetration  
Bed Surface  
O - Old snow  
Problem Type  
Wind-Drifted Snow  
Images  
[Hasty Pit at The Sphinx](#)  
Slab Thickness units  
centimeters  
Single / Multiple / Red Flag  
Red Flag  
Advisory Year  
[19-20](#)