

Two large, deep avalanches on Mt. Henderson near Cooke

Henderson Mountain

Cooke City

12/27/2019

Code

HS-AMu-R2-D2-O

Elevation

10000

Aspect

NE

Latitude

45.05240

Longitude

-109.94500

Notes

Skiers reported: "Two new [[trigger](#) unknown] avalanches on the east side of Henderson today. The first photo is from this morning (12/27/19) around 11:00. The second one appears to be much deeper and I didn't notice it until I rode back by around 2:30, so it might have occurred while I was out skiing or I just missed it this morning."

From Dave and Doug's investigation on 29 Dec:

1. The lookers left avalanche was the deepest at 6' deep of Hard [Slab](#). Estimated 150' wide and 300' vertical. It broke on facets near the ground.
2. The avalanche to the right was 3' deep and also broke on facets near the ground. It too was heavily wind-loaded. Estimated 250' wide and 300' vertical.

Number of slides

2

Number caught

0

Number buried

0

Avalanche Type

Hard slab avalanche

Trigger

Snowmobile

Trigger Modifier

u-An unintentional release

R size

2

D size

2

Bed Surface

O - Old snow

Problem Type

Persistent Weak Layer

Slab Thickness

36.0 inches

Vertical Fall

300ft

Slab Width

250.00ft

Weak Layer Grain type

Faceted Crystals

Weak Layer grain size

2.00mm

Weak Layer Hardness

4F

Slab Layer Grain Type

Rounding faceted particles

Slab Layer Grain Size

1.00mm

Slab Layer Hardness

1F

Images

[2. Snowmobiler triggered avalanche on Henderson Bench](#)

[1. Snowmobiler triggered avalanche on Henderson Bench](#)

[Henderson Ridge Flank Profile - 29 Dec](#)

[Snowmobile Triggered Slide on Henderson](#)

[Second large avalanche on Mt. Henderson](#)

[Large slide on east Mt. Henderson](#)

Attached Videos

[Large Human Triggered Avalanches in Cooke](#)

Slab Thickness units

inches

Single / Multiple / Red Flag

Multiple Avalanches

Advisory Year

[19-20](#)