

Small, intentionally triggered slide

Sawtelle Peak

Island Park

12/16/2020

Code

SS-AFc-I

Aspect

SE

Latitude

44.56110

Longitude

-111.44300

Notes

Road cut south facing slope of 42 degrees, triggered intentionally, shows about 12 inches of windblown soft [slab](#) on top of a faceted layer (in this case more extreme due to [aspect](#) and inclination toward the sun) but was triggered only by chopping a hand into the snow a few times. This same faceted layer (the uppermost layer of a thick faceted layer of 1-2 feet) exists throughout the snowpack. Also, the bottom-most layers of snow are very faceted and conditions have not occurred yet to set the snow for a base. Walking around your feet go right to the ground even in areas where snow is 2+ feet deep. There are many rock/tree hazards lurking under the soft snow because of this, two people in our group damaged their a-arms.

Number of slides

1

Number caught

0

Number buried

0

Avalanche Type

Soft slab avalanche

Trigger

Foot penetration

Trigger Modifier

c-A controlled or intentional release by the indicated trigger

Bed Surface

I - Interface between new and old snow

Problem Type

Wind-Drifted Snow

Images

[Soft slab avalanche on side hill](#)

Slab Thickness units

centimeters

Single / Multiple / Red Flag

Single Avalanche

Advisory Year

[20-21](#)