

Skier-Triggered Slab Tobacco Roots

Bell Lake

Out of Advisory Area

4/7/2019

Code

HS-ASc-R2-D1.5-I

Elevation

3250

Aspect

E

Latitude

45.53680

Longitude

-111.98300

Notes

From the email:

"We toured up to the Bell Lake area with the objective of the adjacent north-facing lines. Dug several pits at the top of the apron of the Good One beside the [slide](#) path. Found ECTN6 @ 5cm and ECTN14 @ ~25 cm. Also 15 cm goppel layer at about 70cm. We made a rising traverse across the [slide](#) path to test the more cross-loaded west edge and our assumption that the goppel was localized. This traverse caused a very small (D1/R1) [slide](#) on the ~5cm interface. We decided to turn around and skied down the apron, then repeated a lap on the apron. The second time we notices some slow moving debris higher in the chute, which was a natural [slab](#) of similar size (both us and Bell Lake guides observed a crown about half the width of the chute).

We ended up ascending to the ridge further east in a tightly treed area and adjacent [slide](#) path where the snow was less wind effected and less reactive. Our initial goal was to ski the lower angle runouts of the [slide](#) paths over to the last [slide](#) path I have heard called Exit Chute or Going Home. When we noticed the less wind effected snow we kept pushing the skin [track](#) up to the ridge.

At the top of the ridge I skied off a wind lip and [ski cut](#) the eastern [aspect](#) on the way over the to Exit Chute/Going Home. The slope was being actively loaded and we had discussed briefly how we had not gathered information on this slope - gathering some first would have been smarter. The resulting crown was 24-30" and spanned about 150'. Probably D1.5/R2). After several pits on the North side and a pit on the same [aspect](#) that slid (east), we got similar results at the two interfaces. The big difference I noted were hardness and grain type lemons at the lower interface, the [sun crust bed surface](#) of the eastern [aspect](#) that slid. On the northern [aspect](#) the lemons and the crust were not present at that interface."

Number of slides

1

Number caught

0

Number buried

0

Number killed

0

Avalanche Type

Hard slab avalanche

Trigger

Skier

Trigger Modifier

c-A controlled or intentional release by the indicated trigger

R size

2

D size

1.5

Bed Surface

I - Interface between new and old snow

Problem Type

Wind-Drifted Snow

Slab Thickness

30.0 inches

Slab Width

150.00ft

Images

[Skier-Triggered Slab Tobacco Roots \(2\)](#)

[Skier-Triggered Slab Tobacco Roots \(1\)](#)

Slab Thickness units

inches

Single / Multiple / Red Flag

Single Avalanche

Advisory Year

[18-19](#)