

## Small, thin wind slabs triggered, Storm Castle Ridge

Moose Jaw  
Northern Gallatin  
1/18/2023  
Code  
SS-ASu-R1-D1-S  
Latitude  
45.44940  
Longitude  
-111.07600  
Notes

Today we toured up Storm Castle Ridge with hopes of skiing the 19th Street [Couloir](#). On the approach we were able to [trigger](#) small (2-4") wind slabs on most lee aspects, these slides ran fast and far for their size. We dug a pit at 9200' on a North [aspect](#) and we're able to identify the [surface hoar](#) but had no results on our ECT. With 2 spotters I dug an ECT 10m below the top of the 19th Street [Couloir](#) and got an ECTP12@ 35cm below the surface. The [slab](#) was 35cm thick, pencil hardness and failed on [faceted snow](#); the buried [surface hoar](#) found in most other pits was not present. We bailed to the opposite side of the ridge and enjoyed some wonderful burn skiing.

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  
Bed Surface  
S - Avalanche released within new snow  
Problem Type  
Wind-Drifted Snow  
Slab Thickness  
3.0 inches  
Images  
[Small, thin wind slab avalanches, Hyalite](#)  
Snow Observation Source  
[Poor test scores on Storm Castle Ridge](#)

Slab Thickness units  
inches  
Single / Multiple / Red Flag  
Single Avalanche  
Advisory Year  
[22-23](#)