

Two big snowmobile triggered on Henderson Mtn., Cooke City

Henderson Mountain

Cooke City

1/16/2020

Code

HS-AMu-R4-D2.5-O

Elevation

10000

Aspect Range

SE-NE

Latitude

45.04480

Longitude

-109.93300

Notes

Two big avalanches were triggered on Henderson Mountain near Cooke City on 1/16/20. One was huge. The other was still big enough to bury or kill somebody. Nobody was reported caught or injured. Report and photos from a third party that did not witness the slides occur, but were in the area earlier this day and saw the slopes had not slid.

From forecaster site visit: "We parked near the bottom of the debris on the Henderson [slide](#) and climbed to the crown. Knife hard [wind slab](#); failed on facets at the ground that were 1F+ hardness (2-4mm). The crown was 5 meters deep (measured) and tapered to 16". There are lots of rocky and thin zones on this slope that were likely the [trigger point](#). Vertical distance was 600', 1000 feet wide, debris was 10' deep."

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

4

D size

2.5

Bed Surface

O - Old snow

Problem Type

Persistent Weak Layer

Slab Thickness

80.0 inches

Vertical Fall

350ft

Slab Width

1000.00ft

Weak Layer Grain type

Faceted Crystals

Weak Layer grain size

3.00mm

Weak Layer Hardness

1F+

Slab Layer Grain Type

Wind packed

Slab Layer Hardness

K

Images

[Crown depth tapered from 15' to 16 inches](#)

[15' crown on Henderson Mtn](#)

[Snowmobile triggered on Henderson \(smaller of two\)](#)

[Huge slide on Henderson close up](#)

[Huge slide on Henderson](#)

Attached Videos

["It's going to kill you...", Cooke City, 18 Jan](#)

Slab Thickness units

inches

Single / Multiple / Red Flag

Multiple Avalanches

Advisory Year

[19-20](#)