Climber triggered wind slab in Flanders

Flanders Creek Northern Gallatin 11/11/2018 Code SS-AFu-R0-D1-O Elevation 9000 Aspect SE Latitude 45.44290

Longitude -110.93200 Notes

Climbers triggered this very small wind slab on the way to a climb up Flanders in Hyalite (11/11). A tiny slide to a skier can be bad news for a climber since losing one's balance or getting pushed off a cliff can be deadly. From an email (edited):

Hyalite Snow Conditions:...we dug two hasty pits on east facing slopes in Flanders....

8200'- isolated opening in trees in an area on rocks, shallower snow (~50cm). CT12 at the ground, again just tapping on the back of other hand, so not super legit, but did raise eyebrows.

8450'- Opening below cliff bands on exposed traverse. Deeper snow (~80-90cm). No concerns other than storm snow and snow coming off of cliff bands. Classic Hyalite shifty winds. We released a small (10-15cm) storm sl slab n traverse into the climb.

Weather: It was snowing and blowing all day.

Photo: S. Magro

Number of slides

1

Number caught

0

Number buried

n

Avalanche Type

Soft slab avalanche

Trigger

Foot penetration

Trigger Modifier

u-An unintentional release

R size

0

D size

1

Bed Surface

O - Old snow

Problem Type
Wind Slab
Images
Small wind slab triggered in Flanders
Slab Thickness units
centimeters
Single / Multiple / Red Flag
Multiple Avalanches
Advisory Year
18-19