

Cornice triggered avalanche north of Mt. Blackmore

Mt Blackmore
Northern Gallatin
3/7/2020
Code
HS-ACc-R3-D2-O
Elevation
8700
Aspect
E
Latitude
45.45640
Longitude
-111.01800
Notes

From an email:

We were still hesitant of our results from our [snowpit](#) so we decided to cut a [cornice](#) that would drop onto the slope below, which I'm estimating to be 40 degrees. We released a [cornice](#) that tumbled downslope. The [cornice](#) went roughly a quarter of the way downslope before triggering a [hard slab avalanche](#) that broke just below the corniced ridgeline. The avalanche propagated on both sides of the path and propagated further downslope. The avalanche ran into the flats and flanked in two directions once the slope widened (which I've included in the map below).

We were unable to assess the crown in detail since we weren't comfortable with the amount of hangfire above, but estimate it to be 150 feet wide, running 1000 feet slope distance and roughly 600 vertical feet. The avalanche failed on the [persistent weak layer](#) interface that we had doubts about.

20200307 @ 12:30pm
Crown:
45.4626N, -111,0219W
8766'
Number of slides
1
Number caught
0
Number buried
0
Avalanche Type
Hard slab avalanche
Trigger
Cornice fall triggered by human or explosive action
Trigger Modifier
c-A controlled or intentional release by the indicated trigger
R size
3

D size

2

Bed Surface

O - Old snow

Problem Type

Wet Snow

Slab Thickness

24.0 inches

Vertical Fall

700ft

Slab Width

150.00ft

Images

[Looking down the path of the cornice triggered avalanche](#)

[North of Blackmore avalanche path](#)

[Map of cornice triggered avalanche](#)

Attached Videos

[Cornice triggered avalanche north of Mt. Blackmore - 7 March](#)

Slab Thickness units

inches

Single / Multiple / Red Flag

Single Avalanche

Advisory Year

[19-20](#)