

Skier triggered and caught in avalanche at Bridger 2



On 12/16/21 A skier in a group of three triggered and was caught in this avalanche next to The Apron at Bridger Bowl. The ski area is closed and backcountry conditions exist. Nobody was injured.

From e-mail: "We had a group of three skiing up at the Bridger Apron today. We skied a more main slope in the field north of the slope with hidden couloir, snow was very stable and has been getting a lot of tracks. For a second run we skinned up the main slope under hidden and started our run in the trees slightly south of this

slope. Not many tracks over there and not a good enough evaluation of the snowpack. We were planning on skiing a northeast facing chute through the trees that had very nice looking snow similar to what we had skied earlier. I skied in and had about 3 amazing turns, definitely partially due to the wind loading at this aspect. After three turns my feet were taking out from under me and I got caught in a slide keeping skis perpendicular to slope for 15-20'. This avalanche carried me rapidly and cleared the snow to the rocks below in which I was able to come to a halt and watch the rest of the sluff slide past me. After looking at the conditions after, this windy aspect seemed to have a very faceted layer about 8" down that acted as the crown. No injuries, a lost ski pole in the runout which extended down the slope maybe another 40'. The wind scoop on top and seeing these facets should have been a clear sign prior to skiing. Must be more diligent even in areas of high traffic. When dropping in to ski on first turn or so I remember hearing a possible whumpf."

Advisory Region

Bridger Range

Longitude

-110.92W

Latitude

45.82N

Avalanche Details: [Skier triggered and caught near The Apron at Bridger](#)

Bridger Range, 2021-12-16