

Fatal Avalanche Ski Hill

Ski Hill

Lionhead Range

2/6/2022

Code

SS-AMu-R1-D2-O

Elevation

8100

Aspect

E

Latitude

44.70160

Longitude

-111.29300

Notes

On Sunday, one snowmobiler in a group of four was caught and killed in a small avalanche on Ski Hill at the south end of Lionhead Ridge. He was on a 45-degree slope when it released and partially buried him against a tree. The [slide](#) was only 4"-11" deep, 75 feet wide and ran 300 feet vertical. His head was a foot under the snow. The avalanche was not witnessed and the victim was buried an estimated 15-25 minutes before he was uncovered. Rescue efforts were not successful. The group was familiar with the area and had rescue gear. The shallow, steep [slide](#) ended in trees, a [terrain trap](#). Our deepest condolences go out to the family and friends of the rider.

A detailed report can be [read here](#).

Number of slides

1

Number caught

1

Number buried

1

Number killed

1

Avalanche Type

Soft slab avalanche

Trigger

Snowmobile

Trigger Modifier

u-An unintentional release

R size

1

D size

2

Bed Surface

O - Old snow

Problem Type

Persistent Weak Layer

Slab Thickness

8.0 inches

Vertical Fall

300ft

Slab Width

75.00ft

Weak Layer Grain type

Near surface faceted particles

Weak Layer grain size

1.00mm

Weak Layer Hardness

F

Slab Layer Grain Type

Rounded Grains

Slab Layer Grain Size

0.50mm

Slab Layer Hardness

1F

Images

[Ski Hill Fatality Profile - 7 Feb 22](#)

[Ski Hill Avalanche: Looking Up](#)

[Ski Hill Avalanche Debris](#)

[Burial Site- Ski Hill](#)

[Investigating the Crown](#)

[Recovery Site, Ski Hill](#)

[Recording a Profile on the Ski Hill Crown](#)

[Looking down avalanche path at Ski Hill](#)

[Ski Hill Crown_looking N](#)

[Investigating Ski Hill Avalanche](#)

[Avalanche at Lionhead_slope](#)

[Responding to an avalanche in Lionhead](#)

Attached Videos

[Lionhead Avalanche Fatality - 6 Feb 22](#)

Slab Thickness units

inches

Single / Multiple / Red Flag

Single Avalanche

Advisory Year

[21-22](#)