

Investigation of avalanche fatality on Crown Butte

Date

Sun, 01/01/2023 - 15:40

Activity

Snowmobiling

We looked at the avalanche that killed a snowmobiler yesterday (12/31/22) on Crown Butte near Cooke City. It occurred on a southeast facing slope at 9,800 feet elevation. At the crown the avalanche was 1.5-2 feet deep on average, and up to 4 feet at the deepest. It broke 500 feet wide and ran 600 vertical feet. It was a [hard slab avalanche](#) that broke on weak, sugary snow, and was large enough to break trees or destroy a car. Our deepest condolences go out to the family and friends of the victim, and those involved with the rescue and recovery.

Region

Cooke City

Location (from list)

Crown Butte

Observer Name

Alex Marienthal