

Avalanche Involvement Report



This report was submitted to the CAC by British Columbia Coroner's Service in the interest of public safety.

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DATE, TIME AND LOCATION

Date/Time: 2009-03-25 13:00

Description: Hell Roaring Creek Forest Service Road, 20 km S

Coordinates: 116 16.602 49 28.581 (Geographic (long-lat))

Mtn Range: Purcell Mountain Range **Province:** BC

GROUP INFORMATION

Type: **Activity:** Snowmobiling

Size: 5

AVALANCHE INFORMATION

Number: 1 **Size:** Size class 3 **Type:** Slab avalanche

Trigger: Ma (Snowmobilers)

Dimension: 250m wide; ran for 400m; average slab depth of 150cm.

Failure Pl.: Old - ~/~

Starting Zone: *Location:* Alpine at approx. 2100m.

Character: NE; 45 degrees; Lee Slope(s); Sparse Forest.

Alpine-treeline. 45-50 degree incline. At treeline in sparse sub-alpine tree the subject was found. The trigger spot is described as mid start zone. Steep broken terrain above to corniced ridge. This is a bowl feature.

Comment:

INVOLVEMENT INFORMATION

Number of people involved: 1 completely buried.

Number of people injured: 1 deceased.

WEATHER AND SNOWPACK INFORMATION

Weather: No signs of thaw instability observed. Snow squalls observed. Many observations were obscured.

Snowpack: No natural activity observed. Boot penetration approx. 20 cm. No other snowpack data collected due to time constraints.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

Five snowmobilers highmarking in backcountry terrain. Snowmobile and deceased operator triggered a slab avalanche. Deceased operator was buried approximately 3 meters in snow. Found by transceiver operation and dug out after 20 minutes from occurrence. CPR administered for 30 minutes. Resuscitation ineffective.

ATTACHMENTS

No attachments.

Date and Time of Report: 2009-03-27 14:10

**The CAC Forecaster Team thanks the observers for
their contribution to avalanche safety in Canada!**