Five skiers caught in large natural dry loose

East Rosebud
Out of Advisory Area
4/16/2022
Code
L-N-R2-D2-S
Aspect
NW
Latitude
45.17210
Longitude
-109.65000
Notes

From one group's obs. 4/16/22: "While 3 of us were on ascent(about 2/3 height) we witnessed a large spin drift off the climbers right wall which entrained a lot of snow turning into a significant dry loose event. Our 3rd who was a little ways behind got carried to the apron. There was a 2nd party behind us just above the apron that followed us up the couloir. Their crew of 4 was carried as well. The 2 of us that weren't carried went into search with our beacons and skied down the the apron where we found everyone on top and luckily uninjured. We never had communication or visual of the other crew on ascent until moments before the incident."

Other group's obs. 4/17/22: "Yesterday a natural dry/loose avalanche ran in the Chamonix couloir in East Rosebud, partially burry all four people in my party and one person in a party above us. Four of the five of us were able dig ourselves out and there were no significant injuries.

We knew the area had received a lot of snow in the last week but there was only a four or five inches of fresh snow at the lake. At about 8,700 feet, when we transitioned to boot packing, there was roughly a foot of low density fresh snow that was bonded well to the existing snow. Skies were clear at sunrise, clouds moved in throughout the morning and it began snowing lightly around 11:30.

We didn't see the beginning of the avalanche, two members of the party above us said that a sluff that ran off one of the walls above them and was small enough when it ran past them that it didn't effect them. I don't know how high they were above the third member of their party but the third member was a few hundred feet above us. By the time the avalanche reached us it had grown substantially and was an over-head wall of snow. The two skiers who saw the avalanche start didn't see it step down to any deeper layers, it was just the new snow. Based on the data from my watch, we were carried about 750 vertical feet. We didn't take any photos of the slide."

Number of slides
1
Number caught
5
Number buried
0
Avalanche Type
Loose-snow avalanche
Trigger
Natural trigger
R size

2
D size
2
Bed Surface
S - Avalanche released within new snow
Problem Type
New Snow
Slab Thickness units
centimeters
Single / Multiple / Red Flag
Single Avalanche
Advisory Year
21-22