

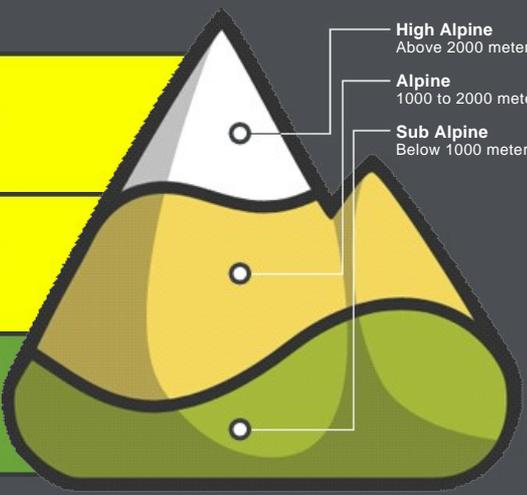
**2.Moderate**  
Heightened avalanche conditions on specific terrain features.



**2.Moderate**  
Heightened avalanche conditions on specific terrain features.



**1.Low**  
Generally safe, watch for unstable snow on isolated terrain features.

**Avalanche Danger Scale**

5. Extreme
4. High
3. Considerable
2. Moderate
1. Low
? Unknown



**MS OUTDOOR SAFETY**

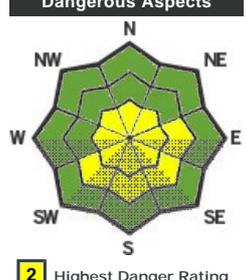
This 'Backcountry Avalanche Advisory' is provided as a public service by the New Zealand Mountain Safety Council, Inc. It is intended as an advisory only.

**Primary Avalanche Danger**



**WIND SLAB**

**Dangerous Aspects**



**2** Highest Danger Rating

**Likelihood**

Certain
Likely
Unlikely

**Size**

Largest
Small

**Trend**

Increasing
No change
Decreasing

**Time of day**



All day

**High Alpine:** Above 2000m  
**Alpine:** 1000 to 2000m  
**Low Alpine:** Below 1000m

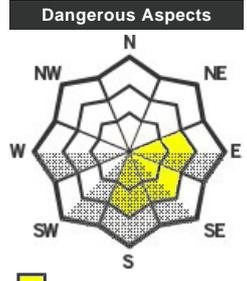
**Description:**  
A substantial amount of snow (50 cm plus) has fallen along the Divide since Saturday evening as the result of storm activity from the Northerly 1/4. This new snow has landed on a pack which contains numerous suspect layers including, buried surface hoar, facet layers and depth hoar at ground. Avoid ridge line entry points, convex rolls and other steep terrain if you discover areas of stiff wind driven snow. Avalanches could trigger under the weight of a single skier or rider. Careful terrain selection is recommended at present. Low angled ground will be a smart choice until conditions settle down.

**Secondary Avalanche Danger**



**PERSISTENT SLAB**

**Dangerous Aspects**



**2** Highest Danger Rating

**Likelihood**

Certain
Likely
Unlikely

**Size**

Largest
Small

**Trend**

Increasing
No change
Decreasing

**Time of day**



All day

**High Alpine:** Above 2000m  
**Alpine:** 1000 to 2000m  
**Low Alpine:** Below 1000m

**Description:**  
A substantial amount of snow has fallen recently and this will stress weak layers buried in the snow pack. Rain/rime crusts buried at least 60cm below the surface have layers of facets growing above and below them. Failures involving these weaknesses in the mid and lower pack are possible.

**Current Snowpack Conditions**



A significant quantity (50cm plus) of heavy, wet new snow fell along the Divide a few days ago. Slightly less snow fell further East. This new snow has landed on a pack which is weak in many places with areas of buried surface hoar, facet layers and some depth hoar evident at ground. Rain/rime crusts which formed a couple of weeks ago are now buried down at least 60 cm. The only certainty at the moment is that the pack is unpredictable - be prepared for the unexpected.

**Recent Avalanche Activity**



Since the weekend, a Northerly weather system has dumped a substantial load onto a snow pack which is riddled with weaknesses. A cycle of natural avalanches occurred during the storm with paths running on a multitude of aspects. These slides will have cleaned out some of the weak layers. If the slope does not show evidence of having run recently, weaknesses may well still be present. Settlements continue to occur.

**Mountain Weather**



The weather should be pretty good for touring on Wednesday. High cloud will build in the afternoon accompanied by rising NW winds. Take advantage of conditions tomorrow as there is some wild weather due later in the week.



For more information go to: <http://www.metservice.com/mountain/index>