

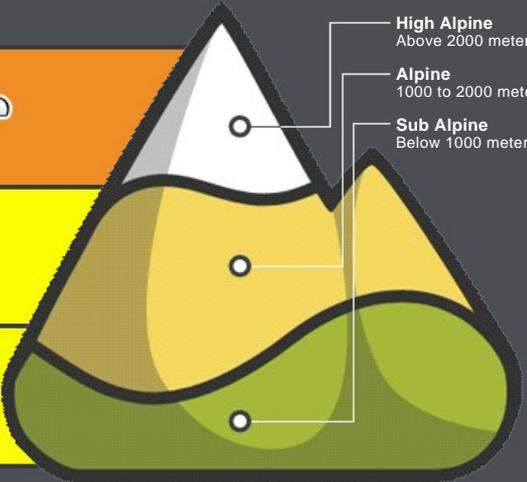
3.Considerable
Dangerous conditions, conservative decision making essential.



2.Moderate
Heightened avalanche conditions on specific terrain features.



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Heightened avalanche conditions on specific terrain features.

Avalanche Danger Scale

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



MS
OUTDOOR SAFETY

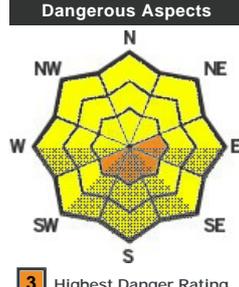
This 'Backcountry Avalanche Advisory' is provided as a public service by the New Zealand Mountain Safety Council, Inc. It is intended as an advisory only.

Primary Avalanche Danger



STORM SLAB

Dangerous Aspects



3 Highest Danger Rating

Likelihood

Certain
Likely
Unlikely

Size

Largest
Small

Trend

Increasing
No change
Decreasing

Time of day



All day

Description:
Areas of storm slab are likely to develop over the next 24 hours. These slabs may form on a range of aspects but particularly, on slopes facing East through to SW above about 1600m. Avoid ridge line entry points, convex rolls and other steep terrain if you find deposits of stiff snow. If in doubt, remain on moderate angled ground and stay clear of slopes exposed to terrain traps.

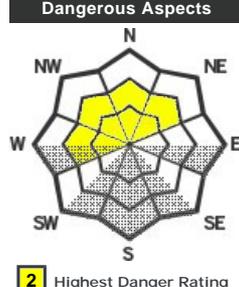
High Alpine: Above 2000m
Alpine: 1000 to 2000m
Low Alpine: Below 1000m

Secondary Avalanche Danger



LOOSE WET

Dangerous Aspects



2 Highest Danger Rating

Likelihood

Certain
Likely
Unlikely

Size

Largest
Small

Trend

Increasing
No change
Decreasing

Time of day



10am - 3pm

Description:
Loose, wet avalanche activity is a possibility particularly on solar (North facing) aspects during the middle of the day. Pin wheeling, and small point releases are signs that the surface is heating rapidly. If the snow under your skis or board is becoming very soft or slushy, it is time to move to a cooler aspect. i

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

Current Snowpack Conditions



A large amount of snow has fallen in recent days (150cm plus on the Divide and at least, 70cm in the East) There has been frequently changes in wind direction and temperatures have fluctuated wildly. As a consequence, the bond between the new snow and the old surface will be suspect for at least, a couple of days. The mid and lower pack are generally well consolidated.

Recent Avalanche Activity



Loose, wet avalanches have been releasing on solar aspects. This is likely to continue on Wednesday with a NW flow and warmer temperatures. Avalanche control work at a local ski field on Sunday 10th produced numerous Size 2 results (big enough to well and truly bury a person). These hard slabs were found mainly on North facing slopes but loading was discovered on other aspects. A remote avalanche was reported on Monday 11th. when a heavy load at ridge top triggered a release nearby - Size 2, Aspect SE, Elevation 2000m.

Mountain Weather



The weather is due to deteriorate during the morning along the Divide, as a North/NW storm pushes in. Conditions are likely to be better further East most of the day.



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

Sliding Danger



With the arrival of Spring conditions, it is a good idea to carry ski crampons and/or an ice axe and crampons.