

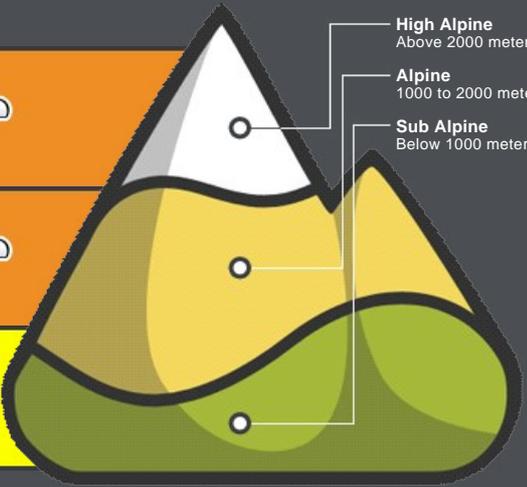
**3.Considerable**  
Dangerous conditions, conservative decision making essential.



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

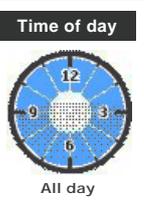
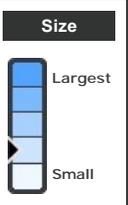
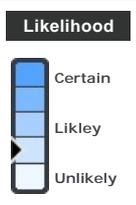
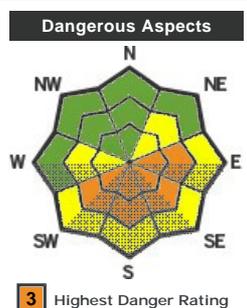
**Avalanche Danger Scale**

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



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**



**Description:**  
There is a CONSIDERABLE danger from PERSISTENT SLAB avalanches. Recent avalanche observations are showing that it may be possible for a persistent slab avalanche to be triggered by just the weight of a single person. AVOID skiing or riding on S and E aspects.



**Current Snowpack Conditions**



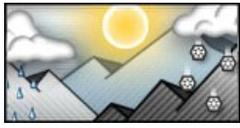
There is a high degree of variability in the backcountry at this time. You will likely see the best skiing conditions and best stability on N and W aspects. On S and E aspects there is a different story. Older sugary snow and frozen crusts have formed and persisted on these shaded, cold aspects. In places this older snow has been buried by the new snow we received last week. The new snow has formed dense new slabs and the older snow underneath cannot cope with the new load. Luckily the latest storm didn't really load up S and E aspects that much so we dodged a bullet there but it will still be wisest to avoid all S and E aspects in the Craigieburn Range.

**Recent Avalanche Activity**



Some naturally occurring, small (sz 1-1.5) loose wet avalanches were observed by the Mt Cheeseman Ski Patrol on Monday. These slides ran over 500m and entrained most of the snow in their paths. In separate events the Porter Heights ski patrol were able to trigger multiple slab avalanches on S aspects using explosives and ski cuts. These avalanches failed on older snow near the ground. At Mt Cheeseman a size 2 avalanche failed naturally on older snow during last weeks big storm.

**Mountain Weather**



It is gonna be a cracker of a day Tuesday. Expect fine and frosty conditions with light NW winds. The day will start out cool but the freezing level will rise up to over 2000m during the day. This will be the calm before the next storm so take advantage!



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