

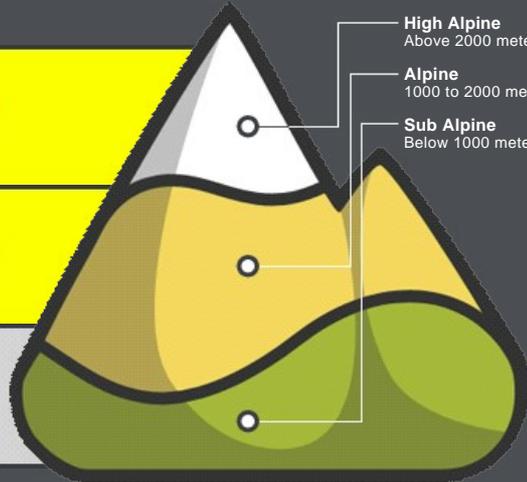
2.Moderate
Heightened avalanche conditions on specific terrain features.



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Heightened avalanche conditions on specific terrain features.



No Rating
Not enough snow on the ground to create avalanche conditions.

Avalanche Danger Scale

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



MS OUTDOOR SAFETY

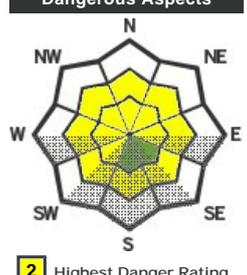
This 'Backcountry Avalanche Advisory' is provided as a public service by the New Zealand Mountain Safety Council, Inc. It is intended as an advisory only.

Primary Avalanche Danger



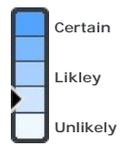
LOOSE WET

Dangerous Aspects

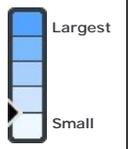


2 Highest Danger Rating

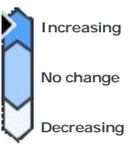
Likelihood



Size



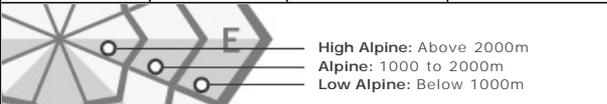
Trend



Time of day



Description:
With warm temperatures and high freezing levels today, there is a MODERATE danger for wet loose avalanche activity in the Hutt Range. Wet loose avalanches should be small to start, but can entrain much snow and build in volume as they move downhill. Avalanches are most likely to start on steep solar aspects at low and mid elevations and may be possible to trigger by a person by midday.

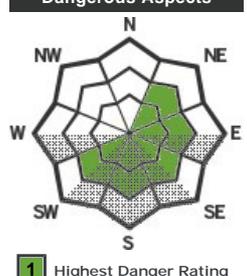


Secondary Avalanche Danger



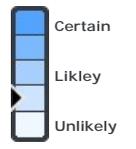
WIND SLAB

Dangerous Aspects

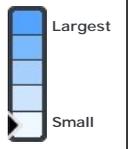


1 Highest Danger Rating

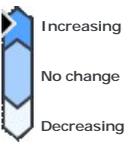
Likelihood



Size



Trend



Time of day



Description:
Currently there is a LOW danger for wind slab avalanches on slopes lee to NW wind direction in the Hutt Range. Snow is being stripped with strong to gale NW winds and deposited as wind slabs on SE aspects and around terrain features. Slabs should be wind packed and stubborn, but could have significant consequences if triggered by a person in steep exposed terrain.



Current Snowpack Conditions



Yesterday wind drifts and surfaces crusts softened to make for great skiing, however over night much of this snow has been cooled by wind and setup to be quite crusty. Things should soften again today with warm temperatures and possibly some rain/snow mix midday, but cloud cover and strong to gale NW winds may aid in keeping significant wet loose activity at bay.

Recent Avalanche Activity



Some natural roller balling yesterday on steep sunny slopes below 1600m. A precursor to wet loose avalanche activity. Also a few small cornices (size 1) were skier triggered inbounds yesterday by Hutt Patrollers. Cornices were dense and pulled out farther back than expected causing both patrollers to fall off the ridge on separate incidents. Neither patroller was fell very far and they were not cutting cornice in exposed rocky terrain where consequences of a fall would be high.

Mountain Weather



Today should be partly cloudy with strong NW winds increasing throughout the day, with air temperatures between 0c and 6C. Freezing levels will be around 2500m and there is a chance for light precipitation midday today.



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

Sliding Danger



Wind may cool and freeze wet surfaces making terrain very slick. Consider bringing crampons and ice axe.