

2. Moderate
Heightened avalanche conditions on specific terrain features.



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

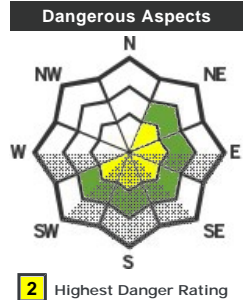
This 'Backcountry Avalanche Advisory' is provided as a public service by the New Zealand Mountain Safety Council, Inc. It is intended as an advisory only.

Primary Avalanche Danger



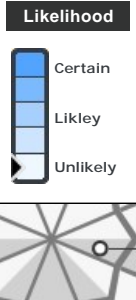
STORM SLAB

Dangerous Aspects

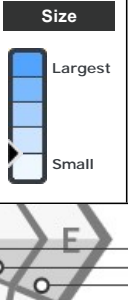


2 Highest Danger Rating


Likelihood




Size



Trend




Time of day



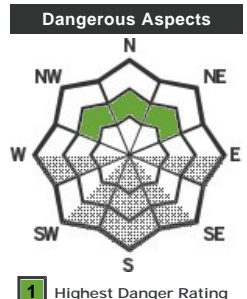
Description:
Isolated areas where enough snow exists on the ground already will develop storm slab avalanches in upper start zones on east and south aspects. These will be isolated to higher ridge crests above 1800m initially due to a lack of snow at lower elevation. It is expected that this danger will increase over Sunday and Monday. Care will be required on steep slopes near ridge crest. Cornice development may occur on exposed ridges. This danger will decrease during Tuesday.

Secondary Avalanche Danger



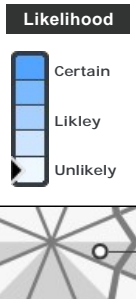
LOOSE WET

Dangerous Aspects

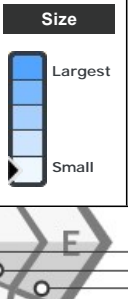


1 Highest Danger Rating


Likelihood



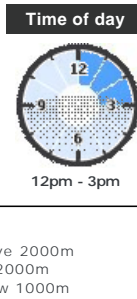
Size



Trend

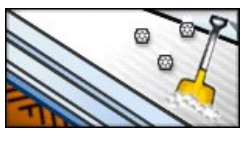


Time of day



Description:
Solar aspects may develop small loose wet avalanches during the afternoon at lower elevations where sufficient snow exists. Care will be required during the hottest part of the day.

Current Snowpack Conditions




This winter so far has seen shallow snow at upper elevations for a long period of time. The concern with this is that this snow will have become increasingly weak on shady slopes and as a consequence less able to support increasing weight of wind deposited snow when it arrives. The snow in this last storm cycle has been deposited on Northern half aspects but care will be required on shady slopes at upper elevations that are significantly cross loaded during the last storm cycle as wind deposited snow may overload the existing snow causing slab avalanches. Storm slab may have developed during Sunday and Monday at upper elevations with rain below 1700 m meaning that cool temps overnight of Monday will snow at lower elevations will be hard on Tuesday morning.

Recent Avalanche Activity




None observed.

Mountain Weather



A fine day after morning cloud clears. Moderate to strong north westerly winds.



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