

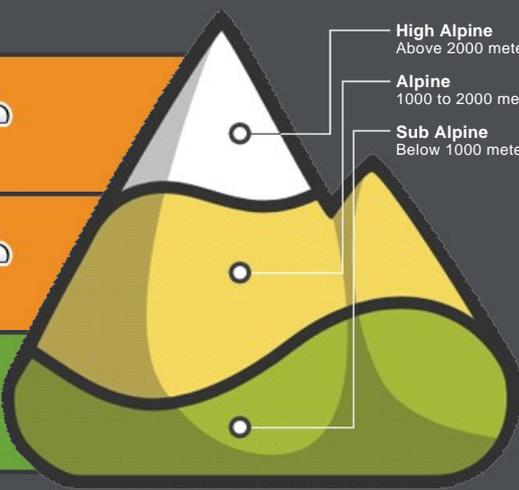
**3.Considerable**  
Dangerous conditions, conservative decision making essential.



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**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**

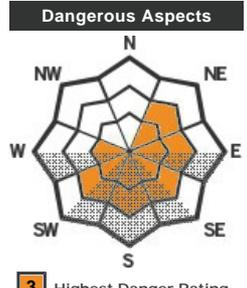
This 'Backcountry Avalanche Advisory' is provided as a public service by the New Zealand Mountain Safety Council, Inc. It is intended as an advisory only.

**Primary Avalanche Danger**



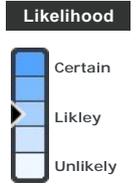
**WIND SLAB**

**Dangerous Aspects**

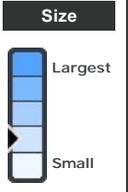


**3** Highest Danger Rating

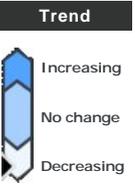
**Likelihood**



**Size**



**Trend**



**Time of day**



All day



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

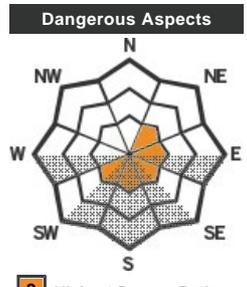
**Description:**  
The recent storm new snow to the Divide region and plenty of NW wind distribution we are in a period where the danger from wind slab avalanches is Considerable lee to the NW and above 1400m. Of particular concern is the bond of the new snow to the old slick surface that is widespread below about 2000m. When travelling in avalanche terrain a cautious and considered approach with the right equipment and knowledge will be required when it clears.

**Secondary Avalanche Danger**



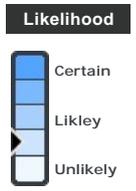
**CORNICE FALL**

**Dangerous Aspects**

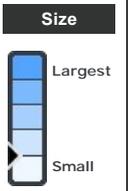


**3** Highest Danger Rating

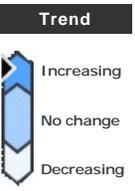
**Likelihood**



**Size**



**Trend**



**Time of day**



All day



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

**Description:**  
The winds that are driving the formation of the above mentioned windslab will also be building up the development of cornices which are at this time of year getting big enough to naturally fail or do so with very light triggers - ie. stay well back from suspect ridgelines!

**Current Snowpack Conditions**



The storm from early last week homogenised much of the snow pack due to rain to high levels followed by warm temperatures, creating a false spring-like feel. In places this resulted in a very firm, slick layer, so we'll have to be cautious and see how the incoming snow crossing the park from Afternoon Saturday bonds with that. Forecasts are for 50-100cm of new precipitation overnight Saturday and most of the day Sunday, falling as snow as low as 900m at times.

Some recent avalanching has been seen to step down to deeply buried layers. The triggers have been heavy loads: heavy rainfall, and cornice fall. Human triggering of this layer is very unlikely, but if you're in the wrong place at the wrong time.... Steep unsupported SE/E slopes above 2000m are the places it may exist.

**Recent Avalanche Activity**



There were a few notable natural releases on high, steep and shady aspects late last week with significantly deep crown walls, which indicated either the old mid-June persistent weak layer coming to life (hopefully for the last time) or localised loading combined with significantly warmer temperatures at the time.

Nothing reported since the latest storm rolled in, but we'd be expecting an active avalanche cycle over the weekend

**Mountain Weather**



The Gale NW winds have eased and begun to swing to the SE. Precipitation has also slowed, but may be slower to clear, potentially sometime on Monday. Tuesday is looking like being "the Day!"



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