













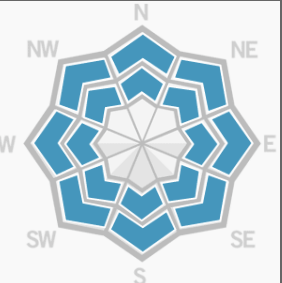




<div><h2>Aoraki/Mt Cook</h2><div>4 High</div><p>Large amounts of snowfall and very strong winds are expected over the weekend.</p><p>There is a high potential for large, naturally occurring avalanches and it is advisable to stay away from avalanche terrain.</p><p>Avalanches may reach lower altitudes, less snowy areas.</p><p>Issued Saturday 19th August 2023 17:45</p><p>Valid until Monday 21st August 2023 17:45</p></div>	<p>High Alpine Above 2000 meters</p> <div></div> <div>4 High</div> <p>Very dangerous avalanche conditions. Travel in avalanche terrain not recommended.</p>
	<p>Alpine 1500 - 2000 meters</p> <div></div> <div>4 High</div> <p>Very dangerous avalanche conditions. Travel in avalanche terrain not recommended.</p>
	<p>Sub Alpine Below 1500 meters</p> <div></div> <div>3 Considerable</div> <p>Dangerous conditions, conservative decision making essential.</p>

Avalanche Problem 1	 <div>WIND SLAB</div>		<p>Likelihood</p> <div><div></div>Almost Certain</div> <div><div></div></div> <div><div></div></div> <div><div></div></div> Unlikely
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Avalanche Problem 2	 PERSISTENT SLAB		Likelihood  Almost Certain Unlikely	Size  Largest Smallest	Trend INCREASING	Description The weak layers buried within the snowpack are still reactive and should never be forgotten. The depth of these layers is around 2m deep near the main divide. But in the central and eastern regions, they likely range from 30-100cm down from the surface. The depth and distribution of this layer varies a lot across the region. A large amount of new snowfall over the weekend would put considerable loads on these weak layers, further increasing the risk. Look out for rocky areas, rollovers, the side of gullies, or anywhere else where the snow might be thinner, which is where it can be easier to trigger from.
					Time of Day ALL DAY	
Avalanche Problem 3	 LOOSE WET		Likelihood  Almost Certain Unlikely	Size  Largest Smallest	Trend INCREASING	Description With warmer temperatures on Saturday afternoon and heavy rainfall on top of the snow that fell a few days earlier, the potential for wet avalanches is very likely. It is best to stay away from any steep snow slopes on all aspects below 1800m. The avalanche could reach lower elevation areas below 1000 m.
					Time of Day ALL DAY	



Recent Avalanche Activity

19th Aug. Limited observation due to the clouds. Multiple loose wet avalanches up to size 1.5 were observed from Mount Cook Village. Some avalanches reached as low as 800m.

18th Aug. Size 2 persistent slab was remotely triggered from about 300m away from a group of skiers on SE aspect 1950m in Gammack range on 18th Aug.

17th Aug. Size 2 skier triggered an avalanche ran on the persistent weak layer on S aspect 2000m in the Liebig range on the 17th of August.

14-16th Aug. A substantial natural avalanche cycle ran during the storm from the 14th to the 16th of August, with storm slab and persistent weak layer avalanches up to size 2 and 3 observed throughout the Burnett, Gammack, and Liebig ranges. Whumpfing and slope settlements were recorded in the Ben Ohaus. Large avalanches have run along the south-easterly side of the main Divide.



Current Snowpack Conditions

Estimated over 1m of new snow is possible with severe gale northerlies near the main divide over the weekend. The amount of new snow tapers to the eastern end of the region.

The fresh snow will overly on 25-100cm of low-density snow from 15-16th of Aug. The next storm will likely create several different layers of snow due to the change in wind speed, temperature and intensity of precipitation.

The weak layers of snow found throughout the area are still sensitive and reactive. A large amount of snowfall over the weekend will put a tremendous load on these weak layers and make them more dangerous.



Mountain Weather



Sliding Danger

On north to north-west facing slopes, very strong winds can harden the snow and increase the risk of slipping and falling.