

US Avalanche Danger Scale

| Danger level and color | Avalanche probability and trigger | Degree and Distribution of Danger | Recommended actions in the Backcountry |
|---------------------------------|--|---|---|
| What... | Why... | Where... | What to Do... |
| LOW (green) | Natural avalanches very unlikely. Human triggered avalanches unlikely. | Generally stable snow. Isolated areas of instability. | Travel is generally safe. Normal caution is advised. |
| MODERATE (Yellow) | Natural avalanches unlikely. Human triggered avalanches possible. | Unstable slabs possible on steep terrain. | Use caution in steeper terrain on certain aspects. |
| CONSIDERABLE (Orange) | Natural avalanches possible. Human triggered avalanches probable. | Unstable slabs probable on steep terrain. | Be increasingly cautious in steep terrain. |
| HIGH (Red) | Natural and human triggered avalanches likely. | Unstable slabs likely on a variety of aspects and slope angles. | Travel in avalanche terrain is not recommended. Safest travel on windward ridges of lower angle slopes without steep terrain above. |
| EXTREME (Black) | Widespread natural and human triggered avalanches certain. | Extremely unstable slabs certain on most aspects and slope angles. Large destructive avalanches possible. | Travel in avalanche terrain should be avoided and travel confined to low angle terrain well away from avalanche path runouts. |