



Department of Conservation
Te Papa Ataturu

**Department of Conservation
Avalanche Terrain Exposure Scale (ATES)**

Description	Class	Terrain Criteria
Simple	1	Exposure to low angle or primarily forested terrain. Some forest openings may involve the runout zones of infrequent avalanches. Many options to reduce or eliminate exposure. No glacier travel.
Challenging	2	Exposure to well defined avalanche paths, starting zones or terrain traps; options exist to reduce or eliminate exposure with careful routefinding. Glacier travel is straight forward but crevasse hazards may exist.
Complex	3	Exposure to multiple overlapping avalanche paths or large expanses of steep, open terrain; multiple avalanche starting zones and terrain traps below; minimal options to reduce exposure. Complicated glacier travel with extensive crevasse bands or icefalls.

Tongariro Whanganui Taranaki Conservancy IMU - 20111003
 ATES- data digitised from hand drawn diagrams.
 Based on ground truthing and slope analysis from 15m DEM
 NZTM Topo50