

# AVALANCHE AWARENESS

A very brief introduction

(or review for some of you)

We like to play in the snow.

But around here we have to go to the mountains to find it.

And there are some steep and deep spots.



And sometimes all  
that deep on the  
steep fails.

That is a place  
you do NOT  
want to be.








# THE AVALANCHE AWARENESS TRIANGLE



# North American Public Avalanche Danger Scale

*Avalanche danger is determined by the likelihood, size, and distribution of avalanches.*

*Safe backcountry travel requires training and experience. You control your risk by choosing when, where, and how you travel.*

Danger Level	Travel Advice	Likelihood	Size and Distribution
<b>5 - Extreme</b> 	<b>Extraordinarily dangerous avalanche conditions.</b> Avoid all avalanche terrain.	Natural and human-triggered avalanches certain.	Very large avalanches in many areas.
<b>4 - High</b> 	<b>Very dangerous avalanche conditions.</b> Travel in avalanche terrain not recommended.	Natural avalanches likely; human-triggered avalanches very likely.	Large avalanches in many areas; or very large avalanches in specific areas.
<b>3 - Considerable</b> 	<b>Dangerous avalanche conditions.</b> Careful snowpack evaluation, cautious route-finding, and conservative decision-making essential.	Natural avalanches possible; human-triggered avalanches likely.	Small avalanches in many areas; or large avalanches in specific areas; or very large avalanches in isolated areas.
<b>2 - Moderate</b> 	<b>Heightened avalanche conditions on specific terrain features.</b> Evaluate snow and terrain carefully; identify features of concern.	Natural avalanches unlikely; human-triggered avalanches possible.	Small avalanches in specific areas; or large avalanches in isolated areas.
<b>1 - Low</b> 	<b>Generally safe avalanche conditions.</b> Watch for unstable snow on isolated terrain features.	Natural and human-triggered avalanches unlikely.	Small avalanches in isolated areas or extreme terrain.



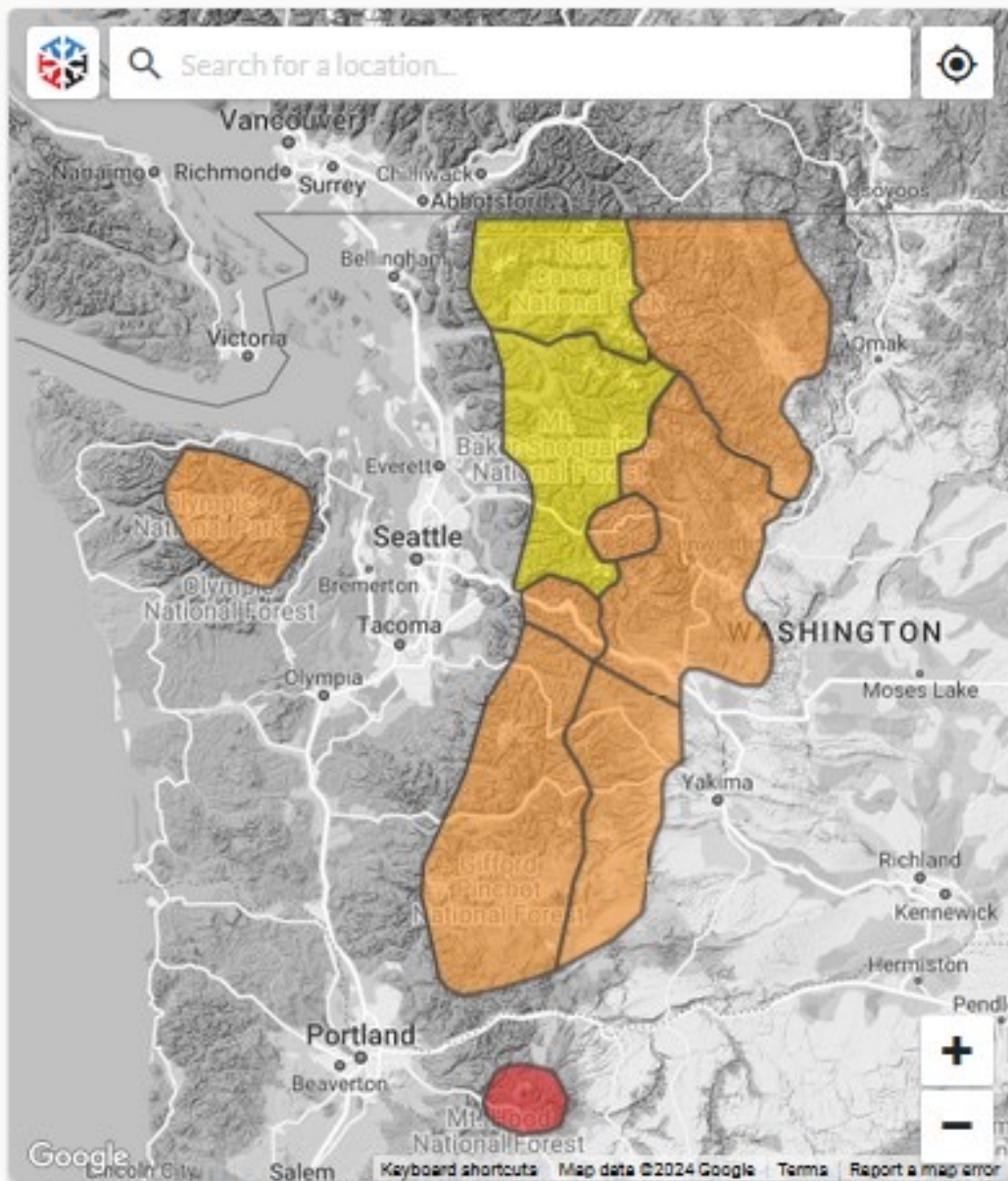
Northwest  
Avalanche  
Center



<https://nwac.us/>



## Avalanche Forecast By Zone



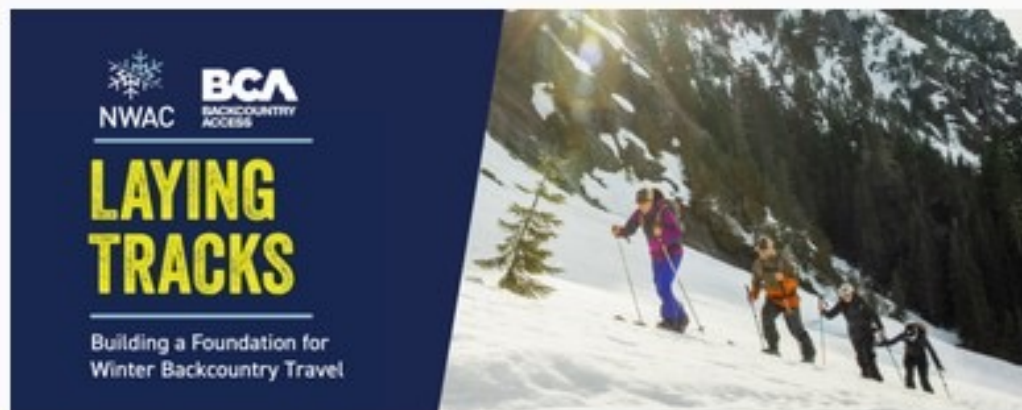
Avalanche Danger Scale



## Get Involved

Become a Member

Become a Volunteer



## News

- Laying Tracks is back for January 2024! Register to continue your backcountry education [here](#).

Meet Your Forecasters in Cle Elum and Portland this January! RSVP [here](#).

## Forecasting Operations

- [Avalanche Forecasts](#) issued daily at 6pm
- [Mountain Weather Forecasts](#): Twice daily (7am, 2pm) starting 12/1
- New - Avalanche Forecast Morning Updates (when necessary)
  - 7:30am for non-warning updates
- Support your local community by [submitting an observation](#).
- We built an app! You can download here: [Apple](#) or [Android](#)

# BACKCOUNTRY AVALANCHE FORECAST

Print

## WEST SLOPES SOUTH

ISSUED  
Thursday, January 11, 2024 - 6:03PM

EXPIRES  
Friday, January 12, 2024 - 6:00PM

AUTHOR  
Lee Lazzara



### THE BOTTOM LINE

Steer around steep terrain holding dense, wind-drifted snow. You are most likely to trigger a slab on unsupported slopes like those above or around cliffs, or on convex breakovers. Large, surprising avalanches releasing in deeper layers will be on the radar through the weekend. Very, very cold temperatures will be an additional hazard to plan for on Friday.

Avalanche Forecast

Observations

Avalanches

Weather Forecast

## AVALANCHE DANGER ⓘ

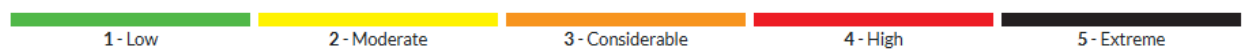
Friday, January 12, 2024

Saturday, January 13, 2024



📘 Elevation Band Descriptions

### DANGER SCALE





NEW THIS YEAR!

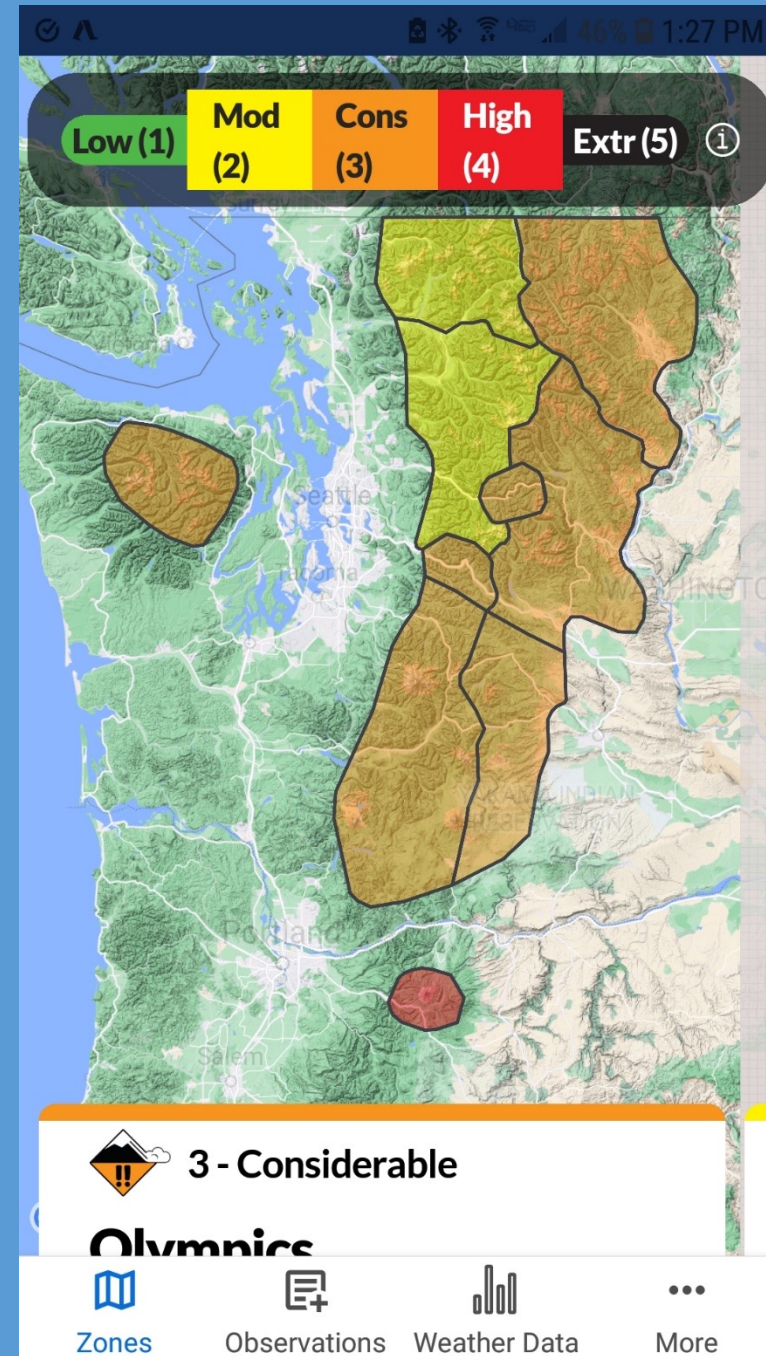
FORECASTS IN A PHONE APP  
for ANDROID AND IPHONE



AVY APP

It will look like this.

Drag the zones at the bottom to pick, then drag it up for details



SO BE AVALANCHE AWARE

AND BE SAFE OUT THERE