**White Pass Terrain Guide**

**For All Backcountry Users**

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YAA/CAC J.Abbiss

**Free**

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**Terrain Assessment Map Warning:** This map is illustrative only and should not be used to determine precise routes or location of features.

**Travel the back country at your own risk.**

Experience, and choosing skilled and responsible travel partners. Use the Avaluator and the information on this sign at your own risk.

The Avaluator cannot eliminate these hazards, but will help you understand and manage them. The Avaluator is no substitute for training, or terrain traps; options exist to reduce or eliminate exposure.

**Significant hazard** is an isolated or terrain trap. Exposure to low angle or primarily forested terrain. Some forest openings may involve the runout of steep, open terrain; multiple avalanche starting zones or terrain traps below, minimal options to reduce exposure. Complicated glacier travel with extensive crevasse bands or icefalls.

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**Check Your Route Planning Decisions**

If you have knowledge of conditions, the Avaluator™ Slope Evaluation Tool V2.0 may be used as a check during your decision making.

Recreationalists with only basic training and little or no experience may be exposed to greater risk due to the uncertainty they will face in assessing conditions. Talk to a local avalanche expert or make conservative decisions.

If you are heading out with no knowledge of conditions, it is recommended you stick to **SIMPLE** TERRAIN with limited exposure to steep slopes, unless you have the skills and background to evaluate conditions in the field.

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**Know What Type of Terrain You Are Heading Into**

Be observant of the current avalanche conditions.

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**Find the Avalanche Terrain Ratings for Your Route**

**Simple**

Exposures to low angle or primarily forested terrain. Some forest openings may involve the runout of steep, open terrain; multiple avalanche starting zones or terrain traps below, minimal options to reduce exposure.

**Challenging**

Exposures to multiple overlapping avalanche paths, starting zones or terrain traps; options exist to reduce or eliminate exposure with careful route finding.

**Complex**

Exposures to multiple overlapping avalanche paths, large expanses of steep, open terrain; multiple avalanche starting zones or terrain traps below, minimal options to reduce exposure. Complicated glacier travel with extensive crevasse bands or icefalls.

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** Terrain Characteristics Score **

- **0:** Terrain is open; significant areas free of avalanche traps below.
- **1:** Terrain is complex, but isolated slab avalanche starting zones or terrain traps below are minimal options to reduce exposure.
- **2:** Terrain is complex, but isolated slab avalanche starting zones or terrain traps below are minimal options to reduce exposure.
- **3:** Terrain is complex, but isolated slab avalanche starting zones or terrain traps below are minimal options to reduce exposure.
- **4:** Terrain is complex, but isolated slab avalanche starting zones or terrain traps below are minimal options to reduce exposure.
- **5:** Terrain is complex, but isolated slab avalanche starting zones or terrain traps below are minimal options to reduce exposure.
- **6:** Terrain is complex, but isolated slab avalanche starting zones or terrain traps below are minimal options to reduce exposure.

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**terrain characteristics score**

- **Terrain Steepness:** 1 ≤ your route steepness ≤ 30 degrees
- **Regional Danger Rating:** Single Slab: Yes, Persistent Slab: Yes
- **Persistent Problem:** Persistent,=yes, Persistent Problem: Persistent
- **Terrain Conditions:** None, yes, no reason, no reason, no reason
- **V. 2.0** may be used as a check during your decision making.

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**Tourist Center of Research and Education**

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**Need Route Ideas?**

Check out these online resources:

www.yukonavalanche.ca
www.avalanche.ca
www.parks.canada.gc.ca/chilkoot

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**About Us:**

Information on avalanche safety training courses near you, experiencing Canada’s spectacular mountain terrain. For more training:

www.avalanche.ca
www.parkscanada.gc.ca/chilkoot
This area is a part of the traditional territory of the Carcross/Tagish First Nation and the Haisla Nation (57). The area is a part of the traditional territory of the Carcross/Tagish First Nation.

FIND THE AVALANCHE CONDITION AND TERRAIN CHARACTERISTICS FOR YOUR ROUTE

**CHECK YOUR ROUTE PLANNING DECISIONS**

1. **If you have knowledge of conditions, the AVALUATOR™ Slope Evaluation Tool V.2.0 may be used as a check during your decision making.** Recreationists with only basic training and little or no experience may be exposed to greater risk than that which they will face in assessing conditions. It is a local avalanche expert or make conservative decisions.

2. **Use the score card below to calculate the avalanche conditions and terrain characteristics for your route.**

3. **Plot the resulting scores in this matrix to test your route planning decision.**

**The Terrain Characteristics Score**

- **Regional Danger Rating**
  - High: Exposed slopes, 45 degrees or steeper, can’t be avoided or eliminated
  - Medium: Exposed slopes, 30 to 45 degrees, can’t be avoided or eliminated
  - Low: Exposed slopes, 30 degrees or less, can be avoided or eliminated

- **Persistent Avalanche Problem**
  - Yes: Persistent slab avalanches that are dangerous even after 7 days
  - No: Persistent slab avalanches that are not dangerous after 7 days

- **Signs of Instability**
  - No: No signs of instability
  - Yes: Signs of instability, 1 to 5 signs

- **Terrain Steepness**
  - No: No steeper than 35 degrees
  - Yes: Steeper than 35 degrees

- **Forest Density**
  - No: No forest, cut-block, or natural triggers
  - Yes: Forested area or in open forest (cut-block, natural triggers)

- **Slope Shape**
  - No: No convex or concave slopes
  - Yes: Convex or concave slopes

- **Terrain Traps**
  - No: No terrain traps
  - Yes: Terrain traps

**Avalanche Conditions Score**

- **Critical Warming**
  - No: Critical warming below 30 degrees
  - Yes: Critical warming above 30 degrees

- **Signs of Slab Avalanches**
  - No: No signs of slab avalanches
  - Yes: Signs of slab avalanches

- **Slopes Steepness**
  - No: No shallow or steep slopes
  - Yes: Shallow or steep slopes

- **Signs of Instability**
  - No: No signs of instability
  - Yes: Signs of instability, 1 to 5 signs

- **Terrain Steepness**
  - No: No steeper than 35 degrees
  - Yes: Steeper than 35 degrees

- **Forest Density**
  - No: No forest, cut-block, or natural triggers
  - Yes: Forested area or in open forest (cut-block, natural triggers)

**Avalanche Condition Score**

- **Avalanche Condition Score**
  - No: No avalanches
  - Yes: Avalanches

**Glacier Conditions**

Glacier travel is straightforward but crevasse or eliminate exposure with careful route finding. Glacier travel is straightforward but crevasse or eliminate exposure with careful route finding.