

# TF MULESKINNER SAFETY ALERT

AFGHANISTAN 12-19



## Avalanche...Where did it Come From?

**Avalanche Dangers are Real**

This Guide is designed to introduce you to avalanches, signs and possible rescue techniques. It is not by no means your training. Nothing can take the place of actual hands-on training or a thorough risk assessment. An Avalanche can cover you in seconds..be prepared!

If you travel through the mountains on mission, you have to remain alert for many dangers. One danger that is silent and sometime unseen until it's too late is an Avalanche.

In Feb 2010, more than two dozen avalanches hit Salang Pass north of Kabul in two days blocking 2.1 miles (3.5km) of road. More than 2500 people had to be rescued and at least 165 people died.

Avalanches occur when the weight of accumulated snow on a slope exceeds the cohesive forces that holds the snow in place.

*Afghan commuters walk after emerging from the Salang Tunnel in this 2002 file photo, taken two days after a similar avalanche killed four people.*

**AVALANCHE GUIDE**



Salang Pass Avalanche - Feb 2010



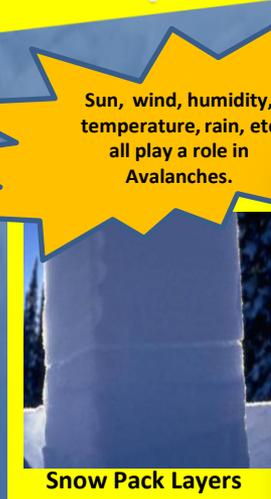
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Supporting the combat effort

**TASK FORCE MULESKINNER**

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**Composite Risk Management CRM MATRIX**

SEVERITY	HAZARD PROBABILITY				
	Frequent	Likely	Occasional	Seldom	Rarely
Catastrophic I	EXTREMELY HIGH	EXTREMELY HIGH	EXTREMELY HIGH	EXTREMELY HIGH	EXTREMELY HIGH
Critical II	HIGH	HIGH	HIGH	HIGH	HIGH
Marginal III	MODERATE	MODERATE	MODERATE	MODERATE	MODERATE
Negligible IV	LOW	LOW	LOW	LOW	LOW



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