

# NEWS RELEASE

**USDA Forest Service  
Caribou-Targhee National Forest  
1405 Hollipark Drive  
Idaho Falls, Idaho 83401**



---

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
DATE: **January 29, 2004**  
04-06

Contact: **Lynn Ballard / Joanna Bennett**  
Phone: **208-524-7500**

## **Avalanche Advisory for the Caribou-Targhee National Forest**

**Idaho Falls, Idaho:** An avalanche advisory is in place for forest users on the Caribou-Targhee National Forest. On the Caribou portion of the Forest, an increase in warmer temperatures and precipitation which has caused natural wet-snow-slides to occur in places where slides do not normally occur. “The stress is outweighing the strength,” stated Greg Burch, Fire Management Officer / Snow Ranger for the Westside Ranger District. “We urge all users to use extra caution this weekend when using the backcountry in the Southeastern part of Idaho.”

The Northern part of the Caribou-Targhee National Forest is also seeing dangerous avalanche conditions. “The last two weeks we have seen clear-cool nights, which have allowed a surface horror to develop. This is now being buried by new snow, thus creating a buried weak layer”, said Kurt Kluegel, Recreation Forester / Snow Ranger for Grand Targhee Ski Resort, Teton-Basin Ranger District.

Avalanche conditions are changing quickly, please check avalanche forecasts at <http://www.avalanche.org> before traveling out into the backcountry.

