

Ruapehu Alpine Lifts - Uphill and After Hours Access Policy

- Whakapapa and Turoa Ski Areas are operational zones and multiple hazards exist within the ski area boundaries, 24 hours a day between the months of June and November
- Under the Health and Safety at Work Act 2015 and in line with Ski Area Licences held with the Department of Conservation, RAL reserves the right to close and/or limit access to certain areas within the ski area boundary.
- This is for the safety of both our customers, national park users and RAL employees.

The following table outlines the typical risks found within the ski area operational zones (ski area boundary):

Hazard:	Risk (pre-controls)	Control:	Risk (post controls)
Heavy Vehicles - clearing snow in and around carparks - serious injury, death	Orange	Stay well clear of all operating machinery.	Yellow
Snow Groomer movements - serious injury, death	Red	Stay together as a group and walk on the very edge of the trail	Yellow
Avalanche control activities - serious injury, death	Red	Obey all signs at all times, check conditions prior to leaving, if in doubt check with ski patrol	Yellow
Winch Cables - serious injury, death.	Red	Observe flashing beacons and do not proceed past signs unless an operator has given you the ok to do so.	Yellow
Snowmobiles - serious injury, death	Orange	Walk on side of trail, be observant of vehicles moving down and up slope.	Green
Snow making operations - high pressure water and electricity	Orange	Do not approach operating machines or equipment.	Green
Falling ice from structures	Orange	Stay clear of all de-icing operations, avoid travelling directly underneath lift lines	Yellow

After Hours Access:

1. Park vehicles only in approved overnight carpark locations.
2. All members of party should be equipped with a torch/headlamp
3. Know your route and the weather conditions
4. Observe winch operation signs - wait for clear signal from operator before proceeding
5. Obey all closures
6. Walk on side of trails
7. Call 111 in an emergency

Uphill Ski Touring Access:

1. Check weather and avalanche conditions before leaving the ski area boundary - www.avalanche.net.nz
2. Obey all closures
3. Stay off of snowmobile routes
4. Travel uphill well off of the sides of trails only and follow the permitted uphill routes as per below:
 - a. [Whakapapa](#)
 - b. [Turoa](#)
5. At any stage during the winter months, avalanche control and or de-icing operations may be undertaken within the ski area boundary - obey all signage