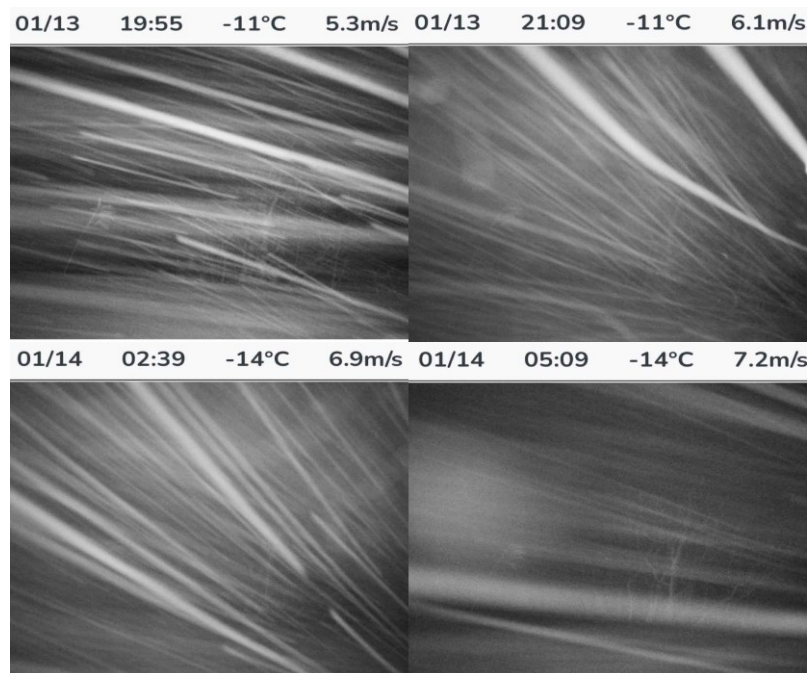


(フィールドレポート January 15. 2026)

1月11,12日の吹雪の後、半日おいて13日夕方から再び天気は崩れて13日夜から14日にかけて暴風雪警報が発令された天気の中、ニセコモイワスキー場BCフィールドで死亡事故が起こった。



@標高 736m；13日夜から14日朝にかけてはこの状態が断続的に続いていた。

風下 (Lee) 側の Wind Slab 吹き溜まりの発達は所により 100 cm～150 cm、それとともに雪底の張り出しも顕著で脆く崩壊しやすく雪崩のトリガーにもなる可能性が高く、14日～15日にかけての雪崩リスクは非常に高かった。標高 800m 以上では危険度 4。(危険度は 1～5 段階で 5 が一番高い)

リスク 2：40 度以上の斜面は避ける→39 度以下の斜面

リスク 3：35 度以上の斜面は避ける→34 度以下の斜面

リスク 4：30 度以上の斜面は避ける→29 度以下の斜面

上記、目安としての雪崩リスクマネジメント判断基準！

しかし、山でのリスクは雪崩だけではないことを、冒頭記述、また第四回レポートにも記載した事故によって再認識することになる。

この1週間のうちにBCフィールドでの事故が頻発していて、すべてが Terrain Traps によるもの＝リスクアセスメントとリスクマネジメントの欠如による人為的なミスが招いた事故とも言える。後から反省してもタラレバを語っても死者は生き返らない。

今日はお昼頃から天気のパターンが変わり、時折晴れ間も見えて山は静かで斜面も雪も素晴らしく美しかった。この静粛さが昨日の事故の痛みを感じる。



が、滑れば雪は素晴らしく良い！



低気圧の接近通過と通過後の北からの強い寒気の流入というパターンが、3～4日サイクルで変わる今シーズン、温度勾配の激しさ、気圧の急な傾き＝急斜面を吹き込む風の強さなどを考えると、引き続き雪崩リスクが高い日が多々あるでしょう。

※ニセコルール（スキー場利用者の安全を考慮して作られたルール）によって、ニセコモイワ・アンベツ地域への完全立ち入り禁止🚫という措置が取られる模様！他の立ち入り禁止区域（春の滝・湯ノ沢）とは立地条件的にもキャラクター的にも違って、山スキーのルートとしても利用者の多い場所であることも考慮して、スキー場からのアクセス禁止はもちろんだが、山スキーツアーの人たちの、スキー場からのエントリー及びリターンを禁止（すなわちスキー場利用にあたるので、ニセコルールの範疇）するということも周知徹底する必要性を感じている。

(Field Report – January 15, 2026)

Following the blizzards on January 11 and 12, the weather briefly stabilized for about half a day. However, conditions deteriorated again from the evening of the 13th, and a blizzard warning was issued from the night of the 13th through the 14th. During this severe weather event, a fatal accident occurred in the backcountry field accessed from Niseko Moiwa Ski Resort.

At an elevation of 736 m, these storm conditions continued intermittently from the night of the 13th through the morning of the 14th. On lee slopes, wind slab accumulation had developed significantly, reaching depths of approximately 100–150 cm in some locations. Cornice growth was also very pronounced; these cornices were fragile and prone to collapse, posing a high likelihood of acting as avalanche triggers. As a result, avalanche risk from January 14 to 15 was extremely high. Above 800 m elevation, the danger level reached **Level 4** (on a scale of 1 to 5, with 5 being the highest).

Avalanche Risk Management Guidelines (Slope Angle Thresholds):

- Risk Level 2: Avoid slopes steeper than 40° → choose slopes 39° or less
- Risk Level 3: Avoid slopes steeper than 35° → choose slopes 34° or less
- Risk Level 4: Avoid slopes steeper than 30° → choose slopes 29° or less


These are benchmark criteria for avalanche risk management decision-making.

However, this recent accident—also referenced at the beginning of this report and in the fourth report—once again reminds us that risks in the mountains are not limited to avalanches alone. Over the past week, accidents in backcountry terrain have occurred repeatedly, and all of them involved **terrain traps**. These incidents can be described as human-caused accidents resulting from insufficient risk assessment and poor risk management. No amount of hindsight or “what if” reflection can bring back those who have lost their lives.

Today, from around midday, the weather pattern shifted. Occasional clear skies appeared, and the mountains became quiet. The slopes and snow were incredibly beautiful. That silence, however, made the pain of yesterday’s accident feel even more profound.

That said, once you start skiing, the snow quality is excellent.

This season has been characterized by a repeating cycle every 3–4 days: the approach and passage of low-pressure systems followed by the inflow of strong cold air from the north. Considering the strong temperature gradients, rapid pressure changes, and powerful winds loading steep terrain, we can expect many days with elevated avalanche risk to continue.

Note: Under the *Niseko Rules*—which were established with skier safety in mind—it appears that a **complete closure** will be implemented for the Niseko Moiwa–Anbetsu area . Unlike other closed zones such as Harunotaki or Yunosawa, this area differs significantly in both terrain characteristics and location, and it is commonly used as a ski touring route. Therefore, it is essential to clearly communicate that not only is access from the ski resort prohibited, but that ski touring entry and exit via the resort will also be banned. Since this constitutes use of the ski area, it falls fully under the scope of the Niseko Rules, and thorough awareness and enforcement are necessary.