

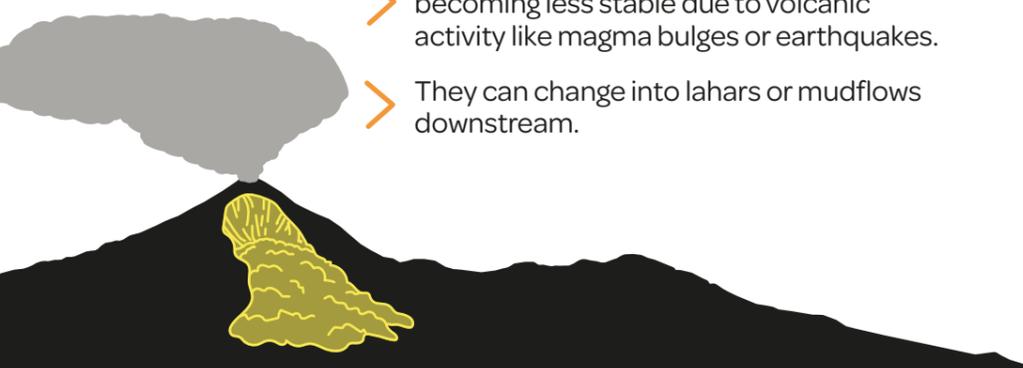
Taranaki Maunga DEBRIS AVALANCHES FROM TARANAKI



Taranaki Maunga is a cone volcano, like its distant neighbours Ruapehu, Tongariro and Ngauruhoe. **Although they are not as common as the other processes, debris avalanches could occur at Taranaki.**

What are debris avalanches?

- Debris avalanches are sudden catastrophic collapses (landslides) of unstable sides of the volcano.
- They are **rare**, but **deadly** and **highly destructive** to anything in their path.
- These landslides are caused by slopes becoming less stable due to volcanic activity like magma bulges or earthquakes.
- They can change into lahars or mudflows downstream.

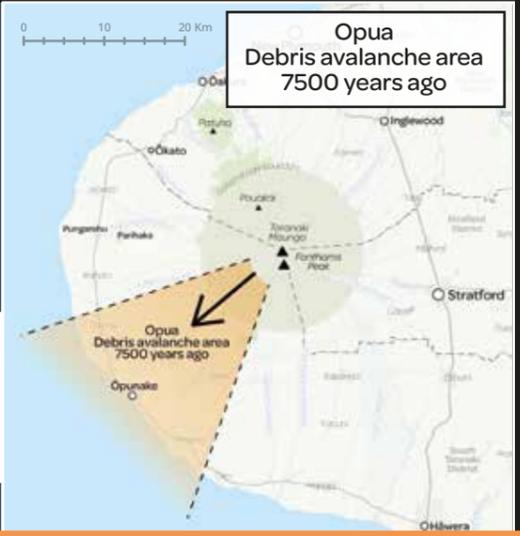


Where do they occur?

Large areas down slope on any side of the maunga.

At least **14** debris avalanches have occurred in the past **200,000 years**.

The **last debris avalanche** took place 7500 years ago and was the same size as approximately **34000** rugby pitches.



Debris avalanche map



The map summarises the directions avalanches have flowed in the **past**. The **Eastern** and **Western** sides are most likely to experience debris avalanches, but they could happen on any side.

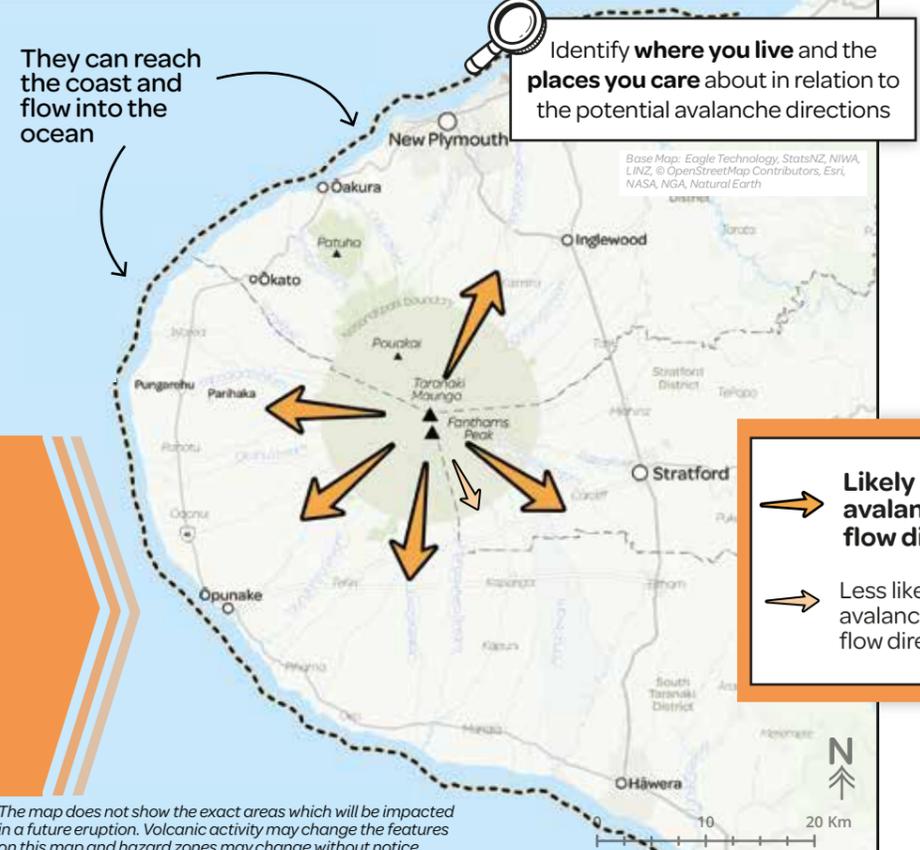
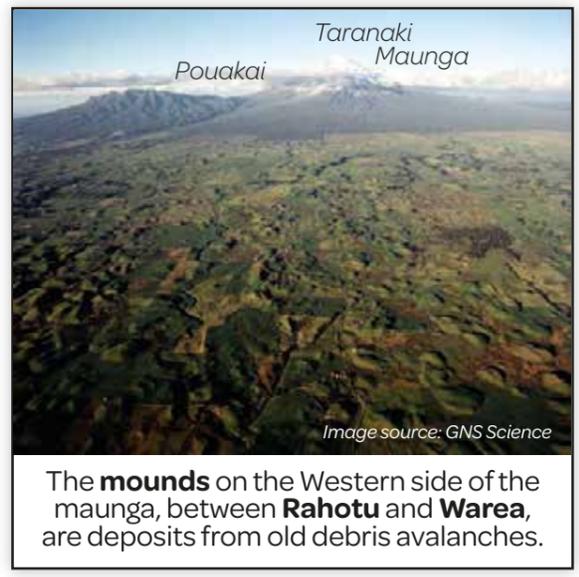
What should you do if a debris avalanche is likely?

If you are WITHIN the potential path of a debris avalanche

- Run or evacuate by car** out of valleys and in the opposite direction of the avalanche.
- And you cannot get away, **take shelter** in a strong building.

If you are AWAY FROM the potential path of a debris avalanche

- Follow advice** from official sources. See list in bottom right corner.
- Stay informed** with the latest information and evacuation notices.



Main impacts

Can cause a great deal of **damage** and **loss of life**.

The force of the avalanche will destroy and cover anything in its path.

Be prepared

Slope monitoring will provide warning if a debris avalanche is likely.

Practice your emergency plan, make a grab bag and have emergency supplies.

More information

See the whole series from Taranaki Emergency Management at cdemtaranaki.govt.nz or scan the QR code.

Go to geonet.org.nz for monitoring, updates and the current Volcanic Alert Level.

During volcanic activity follow **official advice** provided by Taranaki Emergency Management, Department of Conservation and emergency services.

The map does not show the exact areas which will be impacted in a future eruption. Volcanic activity may change the features on this map and hazard zones may change without notice.