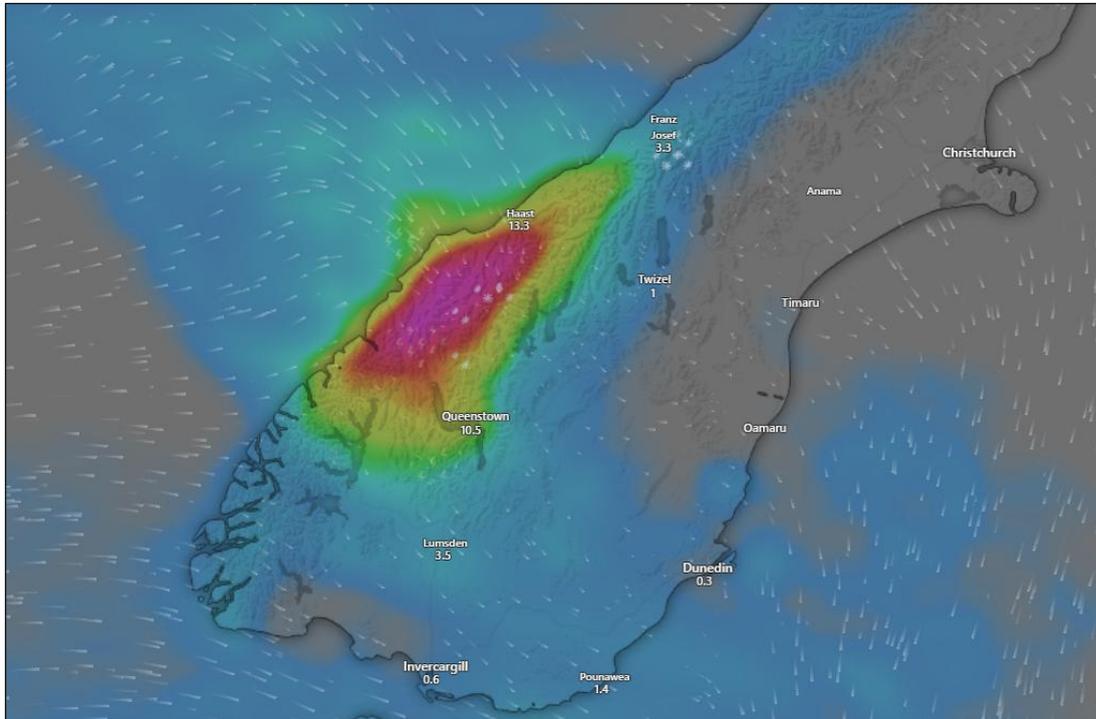




Heavy Rainfall in New Zealand



Potentially Affected Areas

Western South Island including Haast, Queenstown, parts of the Southern Alps, extending toward Franz Josef and inland Otago.

Hazard Duration

21 Feb 2026 to 24 Feb 2026

Hazard Types

Flash Flooding and Heavy Rainfall

Hazard Summary

A concentrated band of very heavy rainfall is affecting the western and central South Island of New Zealand, particularly along the Southern Alps producing orographic enhancement of rainfall across the western South Island. This uplift mechanism concentrates heavy precipitation along the west coast and intensifying heavy rainfalls. The sustained heavy rainfall increases the risk of rapid river rises, slope instability, flash flooding in low-lying communities, and landslides in steep mountainous terrain. The rainfall triggers the landslides and disrupt road networks, particularly along West Coast and alpine routes.