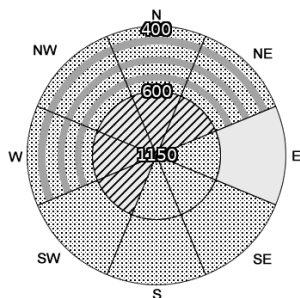


## Avalanche Hazard Forecast - FOR PERIOD 18:00HRS Thu 14/01/2010 TO 18:00HRS Fri 15/01/2010



Hazard Level	Avalanche Probability
<b>Very High</b>	Natural and human triggered avalanches will occur. Numerous very large, often extremely large natural avalanches can be expected.
<b>High</b>	Natural and human triggered avalanches will occur. In some cases, numerous large, often very large sized natural avalanches can be expected.
<b>Considerable</b>	Natural and human triggered avalanches possible, in some cases large, in isolated cases very large sized natural avalanches are possible.
<b>Moderate</b>	Very large sized natural avalanches are unlikely. Human triggering possible in indicated steep places.
<b>Low</b>	Only small and medium sized natural avalanches are possible. Human triggering possible in steep, extreme terrain.

### Forecast Weather Influences

It will be a mainly dry night with persistent sleet and snow arriving at dawn. Freezing levels will lower at first but then rise dramatically. There will be strong Southerly winds backing to South-Easterly tomorrow.

### Forecast Snow Stability and Avalanche Hazard

The rise in temperature will have dramatic effects in the fragile and complex snowpack above 600 meters on South-West through North-West to North-East aspects where avalanches will occur. Cornices on all aspects will be prone to collapse. The avalanche hazard will be High.

## Observed Avalanche Hazard - Thu 14/01/2010

### Observed Weather Influences

The strong South-Easterly winds eased during the day. Temperatures warmed in the valley but remained cold on the tops with only light precipitation.

### Observed Snow Stability and Avalanche Hazard

New wind slab developed on South-West through to Northerly aspects, with some consolidation in the snowpack at lower altitudes. Field tests on a North-Westerly aspect above 850 meters gave very easy, multiple shears in the snowpack. The avalanche hazard is High.

### Mountain Conditions

#### Observed Mountain Travel Conditions

Some scoured areas revealing bare and icy patches. Deep cover remains in many places.

#### Comments

We are in a prolonged period of instability and it is not over yet!