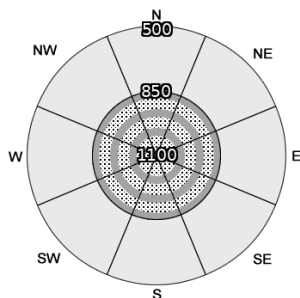


Avalanche Hazard Forecast - FOR PERIOD 18:00HRS Sat 16/01/2010 TO 18:00HRS Sun 17/01/2010



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

Forecast Weather Influences

A little light snow is possible overnight otherwise it will remain dry with much cooler temperatures. Winds will be moderate Southerly but will strengthen and become South-Westerly.

Forecast Snow Stability and Avalanche Hazard

Overall stability will improve in most locations. A little thin, marginally-stabilised new windslab is possible on steep, sheltered Northerly aspects above 900metres. Some localised residual instability will linger on West through North to North-East aspects above 850metres but this is expected to be less widespread than of late. The avalanche hazard will be Considerable.

Observed Avalanche Hazard - Sat 16/01/2010

Observed Weather Influences

Heavy rain turned to sleet over summits in the early hours leaving the rest of the day cooler and dry.

Observed Snow Stability and Avalanche Hazard

Surface snow layers are now wet at all levels with thin accumulations of humid windslab on some steep Northerly aspects above 950metres. Drier, cooler conditions have helped consolidate the upper layers of the snowpack on slopes of most aspects below 800metres however stability remains marginal in many places above this altitude. Clean, easier shears were noted in colder layers deeper in the snowpack. The avalanche hazard is Considerable.

Mountain Conditions

Observed Mountain Travel Conditions

Significant snow loss below 600m. General cover remains good but looking patchy.

Comments

Ski-touring possibilities still there for the inventive.