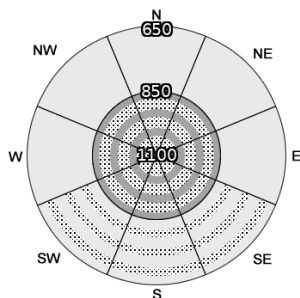


Avalanche Hazard Forecast - FOR PERIOD 18:00HRS Mon 22/02/2010 TO 18:00HRS Tue 23/02/2010



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

Little change. No precipitation is forecast and it will remain cold with light to moderate North-East or East winds.

Forecast Snow Stability and Avalanche Hazard

Buried weak layers will continue to develop on all shaded steep slopes and gullies above 850m and instability will remain localised here. Surface instabilities will be present on all steep slopes above 850m where exposed to sunshine. Stability will remain good to moderate on easier angled terrain at lower altitudes elsewhere. The avalanche hazard will be Considerable.

Observed Avalanche Hazard - Mon 22/02/2010

Observed Weather Influences

Very cold overnight with no precipitation and light South-Easterly winds. A little warmth from afternoon sun at lower altitudes.

Observed Snow Stability and Avalanche Hazard

The snowpack below 850 metres is moderately stabilised. Lingering instability from buried weak layers is present on all shaded areas in steep gully tops and corrie rims above 900m. Very easy shears noted on facets in the mid-pack. Well developed surface hoar is widespread. Surface layers on steep Southerly aspects above 850m showed marginal stability mid afternoon. The avalanche hazard is Considerable.

Mountain Conditions

Observed Mountain Travel Conditions

Extensive cover above 650m.

Comments

Brilliant skiing on surface layer of massive surface hoar, and faceted crystals on Northerly aspects. This Rocky Mountain 'powder' will not be quite so welcome when we get the next snowfall.