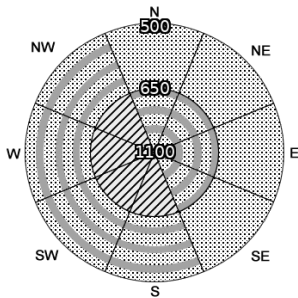


Avalanche Hazard Forecast - FOR PERIOD 18:00HRS Fri 26/02/2010 TO 18:00HRS Sat 27/02/2010



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

It will remain cold with overnight snow showers on strong North-East winds.

Forecast Snow Stability and Avalanche Hazard

Buried very weak layers will persist under deep windslab deposits mainly on South through West to North-West aspects above 650m where avalanches will occur. Localised instability will also remain on other steep, sheltered locations where snow has recently accumulated. High hazard of avalanche.

Observed Avalanche Hazard - Fri 26/02/2010

Observed Weather Influences

It has been cold with strong North-East or Easterly winds and persistent snow showers which tapered out during the day.

Observed Snow Stability and Avalanche Hazard

Poorly-stabilised, deep windslab lies on most steep South through West to North-West aspects above 650m. Cross-loaded pockets of weak windslab exist in very sheltered areas on gully flanks and corrie backwalls of other aspects. Very easy shears noted on faceted crystals above and below a crust on low angled ground at 600m. Localised scouring noted on some ridges and wind-exposed aspects. The avalanche hazard is High.

Mountain Conditions

Observed Mountain Travel Conditions

Snow at all levels. Deep drifts in many places.

Comments

Hard going in deep snow. Trail-breaking definitely not for the faint-hearted.