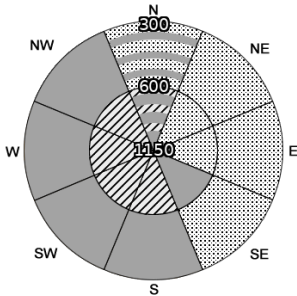


Avalanche Hazard Forecast - FOR PERIOD 18:00HRS Fri 26/02/2010 TO 18:00HRS Sat 27/02/2010



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

Outbreaks of snow during the night will gradually die out through the day. Strong North-Easterly winds will veer to the East during the period. The freezing level will be around 400 metres.

Forecast Snow Stability and Avalanche Hazard

There will be further accumulations of unstable windslab on top of the already significant deposits which exist on South through West to North-West aspects above 600 metres where avalanches will occur. Cross loading will result in pockets of weak slab forming on other aspects. In many areas this windslab will remain poorly bonded due to the buried surface hoar layer. Some large and fragile cornices will exist. The avalanche hazard will be High.

Observed Avalanche Hazard - Fri 26/02/2010

Observed Weather Influences

After some overnight snow it was a generally dry day. Strong winds were from the East, with a freezing level of around 500 metres.

Observed Snow Stability and Avalanche Hazard

The snow and strong winds have deposited additional windslab mainly on South-West to North-West aspects, and in other sheltered locations above 400 metres. In many locations the slab is particularly unstable because it overlies a weak layer of buried surface hoar crystals. Fresh cornices are also unstable. The avalanche hazard is High.

Mountain Conditions

Observed Mountain Travel Conditions

Some areas blown clear, deep deposits and large drifts in other areas.

Comments

Care required in the mountains this weekend due to the ongoing high avalanche hazard.