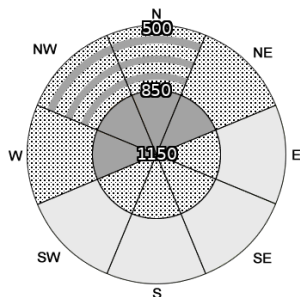


Avalanche Hazard Forecast - FOR PERIOD 18:00HRS Tue 15/02/2011 TO 18:00HRS Wed 16/02/2011



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

There will be a prolonged period of snow fall tonight with strong South-East winds backing Easterly then veering South-East tomorrow. The freezing level and snow line will vary between 600-800 metres.

Forecast Snow Stability and Avalanche Hazard

The distribution of weakly bonded windslab deposits will become more widespread at higher elevation. This wind slab will be poorly bonded and may be triggered by light additional loads such as a person or small cornice break, this will form mainly on West through North to North-East aspects above 850 metres where avalanches are likely. The avalanche hazard will be Considerable.

Observed Avalanche Hazard - Tue 15/02/2011

Observed Weather Influences

A little bit of everything; mostly clear morning skies, heavy snow showers, strong South-East winds, the snow/rain line about 500 metres in the afternoon and poor visibility above 900 metres.

Observed Snow Stability and Avalanche Hazard

Avalanches debris was noted at 1000 metres on a North-East aspect. Field observations noted weakly bonded windslab slab from newly transported snow, shooting cracks under foot, also areas where the melt freeze cycle contributes to a well bonded snowpack. All these observations are on many aspects and elevations. Significant cornice build up. The avalanche hazard is Considerable.

Mountain Conditions

Observed Mountain Travel Conditions

Some heavy trail breaking on foot; on piste good; off piste is easier going up than down in heather/boulder zones.

Comments

Ridges with safe access and egress are hard to find. Hefty trail breaking to get there.