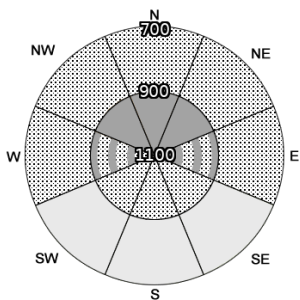


Avalanche Hazard Forecast - FOR PERIOD 18:00HRS Thu 17/02/2011 TO 18:00HRS Fri 18/02/2011



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

Becoming colder with strengthening South-South-East winds and light snow showers.

Forecast Snow Stability and Avalanche Hazard

Due to strengthening snow will be redistributed as poorly stabilised windslab mainly on steep, sheltered North-West through North to East aspects above 900m where avalanches are likely. Other aspects and gully flanks will be affected due to cross loading. Stability will be good on all South aspects and slopes scoured by winds. The avalanche hazard will be Considerable.

Observed Avalanche Hazard - Thu 17/02/2011

Observed Weather Influences

Very little overnight snow then dry and bright during the day. Colder, and winds have been light to moderate South Easterly.

Observed Snow Stability and Avalanche Hazard

Pockets of softer, thin windslab lie on a few varied aspects but these are not widespread. Warmth from the sun has softened the snow on most South aspects but these remain well-stabilised. Many steep North-West aspects still hold deep windslab and stability above 1050m is marginal. The avalanche hazard is Considerable.

Mountain Conditions

Observed Mountain Travel Conditions

Snow above 550m but best cover above 700m.

Comments

It's going to get very windy on later on Friday so an early start/finish advised. Check out the blog later tonight for pretty pictures.