

Extracted from AlaskaSnow Valdez avalanche bulletin

<http://www.alaskasnow.org/>

follow link to Snowpack Conditions (Avert report)

2008/04/07 Upper elevation: Fair stability, Considerable danger
Mid elevation: Fair stability, Moderate danger
Lower elevation: Fair stability, Low danger

Valdez Chugach: Easily triggered HST slabs in Upper elevation north aspects on March 27th buried surface hoar and near surface faceting. New snow on south aspects reactive with solar radiation.

2008/04/06

Alpine Woods: 50mm water equivalent has fallen in rain and snow since April 1. Last night was the first night in April that the temp dipped below freezing.

Valdez Chugach: 60cm of new snow has fallen at Thompson Pass since the last of the clear weather at the end of March. At the Mid elevation the new snow has settled and bonded to the old snow. Flat light conditions in the Upper elevation have allowed few observations of the new snow bonding with the surface hoar and near surface faceting developed March 27th (watch north aspects).

2008/04/02 Valdez Chugach: The surface hoar and near surface faceting developed over the last week of March is now covered with 20-30cm new snow. The new windslabs in the Upper and Mid elevations are easily triggered. With the freezing level rising to 2500' the snowpack at the Lower elevation is becoming isothermal.

2008/04/01 Valdez Chugach: Upper elevation: New snow covering surface hoar and near surface facets. Windslabs easily triggered. Lower elevation: becoming isothermal.

2008/03/31 Valdez Chugach: The clear cool weather of the past week produced surface hoar and near surface faceting which is now being covered with new snow. In the Books above the Heiden Glacier the bottom half of the 2m Maritime snowpack at 4000' is depth hoar facets. The bond with the strong snow over the depth hoar is rough and difficult to shear in tests. Large avalanches have been observed running in the depth hoar off the Tusk and in the Books. Persistent weak layer: Mid elevation facets in the Continental region (Mile 60) triggered by snowmachine on the 24th: size 2, crown to 3m, averaged 1m. Mid elevation facets in the Intermountain region are also still reactive (Mile 32, remote snowmachine triggered, size 2, crown to 2m).