

SOUTHEAST ALASKA AVALANCHE CENTER LEVEL 1 FIELD CHECKLIST A

STABILITY EVALUATION - ROADMAP

1. STABILITY 1 - OBSERVATIONS

- **SIGNS OF INSTABILITY**
 - AVALANCHE ACTIVITY
 - WHOOMPING, COLLAPSE
 - HOLLOW SOUNDS
 - SHOOTING CRACKS
 - RECENT HEAVY SNOW
 - RAIN OR THAW
 - WINDLOADING

- **TALLY # OUT OF 7 SIGNS.**

- **WEIGHT MAGNITUDE & SIGNIFICANCE.**

2. STABILITY 2 - SLOPE & TRAVELING TESTS

- **EVALUATE SITES, 5 FACTORS**

1. ANGLE
2. ASPECT
3. ELEVATION
4. LOADING
5. **RISK**

- **TESTS, SAMPLE QUICKLY & WIDELY**

- SLOPE
- DRIFT, CORNICE
- SWITCHBACK
- PARALLEL TRACKS
- PROBING
- SLAB
- SKI POLE BLOCK
- NO EXCUSE BLOCK

© Bill Glude 20071112

3. STABILITY 3 - SNOWPITS

- **QUICK PIT CHANT:**

1. PICK SITE (5 FACTORS).
2. LAY OUT BLOCK TESTS.
3. DIG IT.
4. SMOOTH IT.
5. BRUSH IT.
6. POKE IT:
 - * PICK OUT LAYERS
 - * HARDNESS
 - * GRAIN TYPE
 - * MOISTURE
 - * GRAIN SIZE
 - * TEMPERATURE
7. PREDICT IT (LEMONS):
 - * $WL \leq 1M$
 - * $HARDNESS \geq 1$ STEP
 - * WL THICKNESS $\leq 10cm$
 - * $GRAIN$ SIZE DIFF $\geq 1mm$
 - * WL GRAINS PERSISTENT
8. SHEAR IT:
 - * AK BLOCK
 - * RUTSCHBLOCK
 - * JUMP
 - * TAP COMPRESSION
 - * SHOVEL
 - * NOTE SHEAR QUALITY:
 - Q1 - CLEAN & FAST SHEAR
 - Q2 - AVERAGE SHEAR
 - Q3 - IRREGULAR, INCOMPLETE
 - * SLAB TEST
9. MOVE ON, ANALYSIS STEPS ON SIDE B.

SOUTHEAST ALASKA AVALANCHE CENTER LEVEL 1 FIELD CHECKLIST A

STABILITY EVALUATION - ROADMAP

1. STABILITY 1 - OBSERVATIONS

- **SIGNS OF INSTABILITY**
 - AVALANCHE ACTIVITY
 - WHOOMPING, COLLAPSE
 - HOLLOW SOUNDS
 - SHOOTING CRACKS
 - RECENT HEAVY SNOW
 - RAIN OR THAW
 - WINDLOADING

- **TALLY # OUT OF 7 SIGNS.**

- **WEIGHT MAGNITUDE & SIGNIFICANCE.**

2. STABILITY 2 - SLOPE & TRAVELING TESTS

- **EVALUATE SITES, 5 FACTORS**

1. ANGLE
2. ASPECT
3. ELEVATION
4. LOADING
5. **RISK**

- **TESTS, SAMPLE QUICKLY & WIDELY**

- SLOPE
- DRIFT, CORNICE
- SWITCHBACK
- PARALLEL TRACKS
- PROBING
- SLAB
- SKI POLE BLOCK
- NO EXCUSE BLOCK

© Bill Glude 20071112

3. STABILITY 3 - SNOWPITS

- **QUICK PIT CHANT:**

1. PICK SITE (5 FACTORS).
2. LAY OUT BLOCK TESTS.
3. DIG IT.
4. SMOOTH IT.
5. BRUSH IT.
6. POKE IT:
 - * PICK OUT LAYERS
 - * HARDNESS
 - * GRAIN TYPE
 - * MOISTURE
 - * GRAIN SIZE
 - * TEMPERATURE
7. PREDICT IT (LEMONS):
 - * $WL \leq 1M$
 - * $HARDNESS \geq 1$ STEP
 - * WL THICKNESS $\leq 10cm$
 - * $GRAIN$ SIZE DIFF $\geq 1mm$
 - * WL GRAINS PERSISTENT
8. SHEAR IT:
 - * AK BLOCK
 - * RUTSCHBLOCK
 - * JUMP
 - * TAP COMPRESSION
 - * SHOVEL
 - * NOTE SHEAR QUALITY:
 - Q1 - CLEAN & FAST SHEAR
 - Q2 - AVERAGE SHEAR
 - Q3 - IRREGULAR, INCOMPLETE
 - * SLAB TEST
9. MOVE ON, ANALYSIS STEPS ON SIDE B.