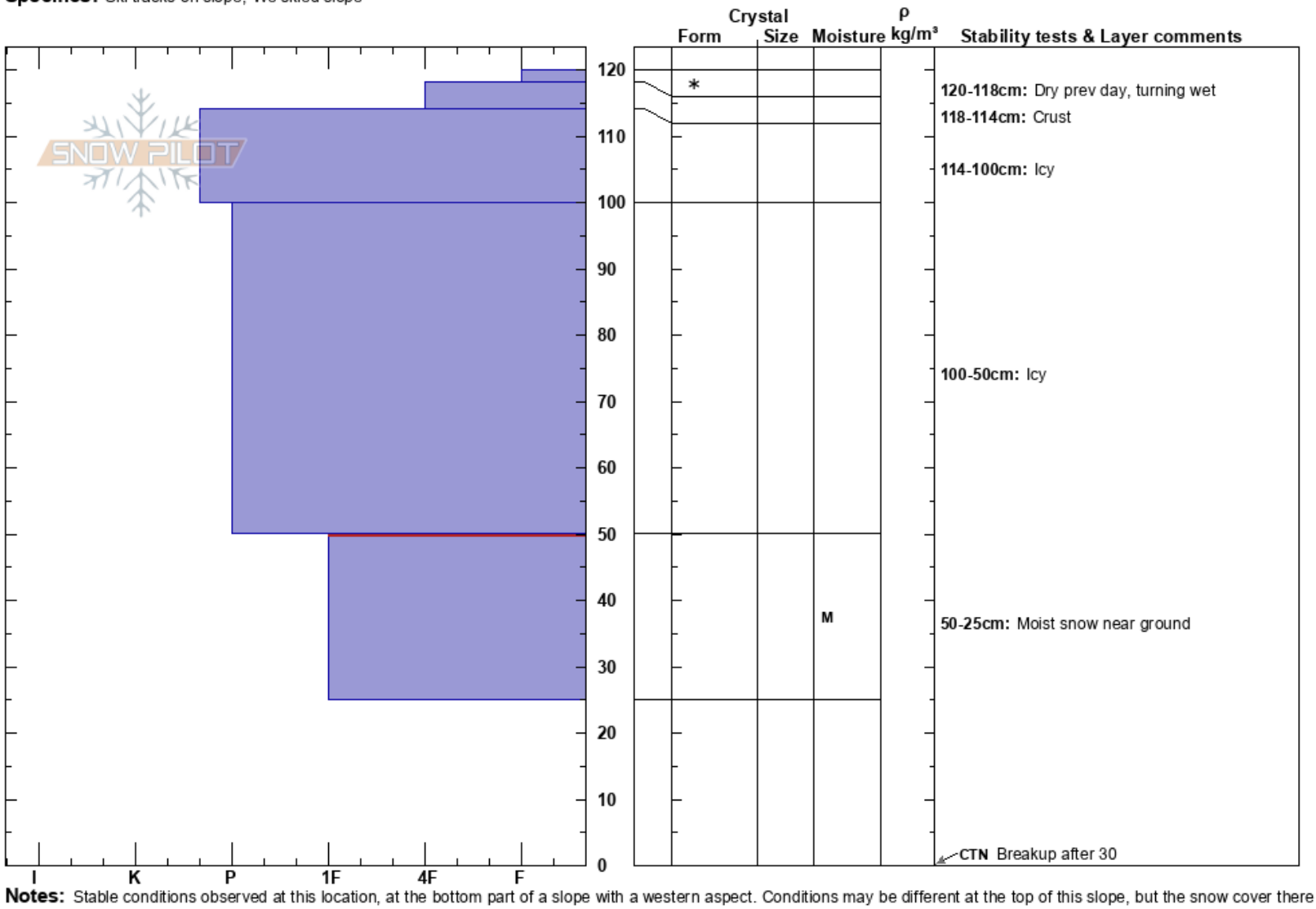
Kamilata Snowpit
Rila
Bulgaria
Elevation: 2165 m
Aspect: NW
Specifics: Ski tracks on slope; We skied slope

Kalin Markov
19/03/2023 - 12:40
Co-ord: 42.18259N, 23.37398E
Slope Angle: 30°
Wind Loading: no

Stability: Very Good
Air Temperature:
Sky Cover: CLR
Precipitation: NO
Wind: Calm

HS: 120

Layer Notes:
120-118cm: Dry prev day, turning wet
118-114cm: Crust
114-100cm: Icy
100-50cm: Icy
50-25cm: Moist snow near ground
[More Layer Comments below]



Notes: Stable conditions observed at this location, at the bottom part of a slope with a western aspect. Conditions may be different at the top of this slope, but the snow cover there seems less than at the pit location.

The new snow from yesterday, which was dry and fell as dendrites, varies from a few cm at the pit location to probably around 15 cm in other, more wind-loaded places higher up on the same slope - but in general it is not a lot. It turned moist throughout the course of the day due to sunshine and warm temperatures on all aspects except on true north locations higher up on the slope towards Kamilata Peak, where it remained mostly powdery. This wettening of the surface layer made it bond better to the crusty layer below it, but at the places where it remained powdery, it had no bond with the crusty, icy layer below it and slid very easily. This is not worrying at the moment because the new snow is not a lot.

A large part of the snowpack is very hard and icy, but at around 50 cm from the surface, the ice disappears and the snow turns heavy and moist, maybe due to surface warmness of the ground.

I did not observe any real amount of graupel or sugary snow, in contrast to many other locations at the moment. Also no distinct entirely yellow layers, except a small amount within the icy layers.

Sunny day, air completely still - no wind at all, warm temperatures, temperature of -1C at around 2400 meters (different from pit location) below Kamilata Peak on a north aspect, at around 15:30.
Evident wettening of the surface snow causing snowballs to naturally slide on the surface on all eastern slopes, and those with a true west orientation towards the end of the day, after getting some direct sunlight.

At the moment the temps were not warm enough on NW slopes to cause any problems.

Avalanche activity - none recently, likely a very old slab, relatively small observed at the bottom part of the eastern slope under Malka Malyovitsa.

Could be complications this week with perhaps a large and likely wet snowfall coming Tuesday evening, then very warm temps towards the end of the week.Additional Layer Comments: 25-50cm: Problematic layer;