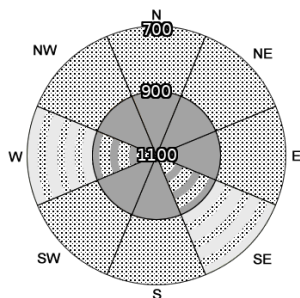


**Avalanche Hazard Forecast - FOR PERIOD 18:00HRS Mon 25/01/2010 TO 18:00HRS Tue 26/01/2010**



Hazard Level	Avalanche Probability
<b>Very High</b>	Natural and human triggered avalanches will occur. Numerous very large, often extremely large natural avalanches can be expected.
<b>High</b>	Natural and human triggered avalanches will occur. In some cases, numerous large, often very large sized natural avalanches can be expected.
<b>Considerable</b>	Natural and human triggered avalanches possible, in some cases large, in isolated cases very large sized natural avalanches are possible.
<b>Moderate</b>	Very large sized natural avalanches are unlikely. Human triggering possible in indicated steep places.
<b>Low</b>	Only small and medium sized natural avalanches are possible. Human triggering possible in steep, extreme terrain.

**Forecast Weather Influences**

Overnight snow and sleet will turn to rain at all levels as the freezing level rises rapidly to 1700m. Winds will be moderate South-Westerly, later West-South-Westerly.

**Forecast Snow Stability and Avalanche Hazard**

The dramatic rise in temperature and rain will de-stabilise all new and recently formed windslab on North to East and South to South-West aspects above 900m. Stability will also be poor on North-West to North facing slopes and gullies that have older, deeper snow with underlying weaknesses. All cornices will be prone to collapse. Then avalanche hazard will be Considerable.

**Observed Avalanche Hazard - Mon 25/01/2010**

**Observed Weather Influences**

It remained dry and cold overnight and throughout the day. Winds were moderate South-Westerly during daylight hours.

**Observed Snow Stability and Avalanche Hazard**

Soft, cold windslab lies on steep South to South-West aspects above 950m. The build up is not extensive but the snow fractures readily with light loads, a little localised scouring has taken place, but slab depths of 30cms were measured in places. Very good stability noted on other aspects although relatively easy failures showed up in field tests on a North-West aspect at 930m. The avalanche hazard is Moderate.

**Mountain Conditions**

**Observed Mountain Travel Conditions**

Remains good but snow loss anticipated

**Comments**

First big melt-down after prolonged cold conditions. Poor mountain conditions in prospect.