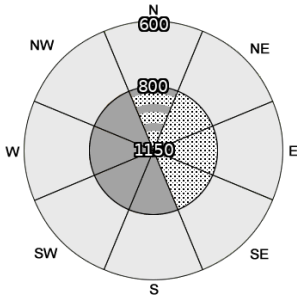


**Avalanche Hazard Forecast - FOR PERIOD 18:00HRS Tue 23/02/2010 TO 18:00HRS Wed 24/02/2010**



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**

A change the weather is expected. East to North-Easterly winds will increase in strength. A few snow showers are expected during the day. It will remain cold with the freezing level rising to 300 metres.

**Forecast Snow Stability and Avalanche Hazard**

Re-deposition of the soft snowpack as windslab will take place on South through West to North-West aspects above 800 metres. Any fresh snow which falls will also accumulate in these locations. The windslab will be deposited on top of a weak layer of surface hoar crystals, and avalanches here are likely. The avalanche hazard will be Considerable.

**Observed Avalanche Hazard - Tue 23/02/2010**

**Observed Weather Influences**

The settled, sunny conditions of late continued through the day. It was cold with the freezing level at sea level and light south winds.

**Observed Snow Stability and Avalanche Hazard**

Little change was observed in the snowpack. On Southern aspects, and where exposed to the sun, the snowpack has developed a b crust. Very soft powdery snow with a well developed layer of surface hoar exists on other aspects. Minor instabilities exist on steep slopes and gullies on all aspects above 900 metres. The avalanche hazard is Moderate.

**Mountain Conditions**

**Observed Mountain Travel Conditions**

Snow at all level except on steep Southerly aspects below 700 metres where it has been stripped by the sun.

**Comments**

An unusual (for Scotland) snowpack at the moment. A weak and well developed layer of surface hoar exists, which will form a very easy sliding surface if/when buried by windslab.