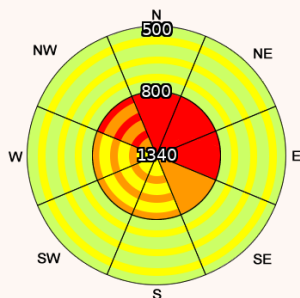


Avalanche Hazard Forecast - FOR PERIOD 18:00HRS Sun 04/04/2010 TO 18:00HRS Mon 05/04/2010



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

Forecast Weather Influences

A change in the weather is expected. South to South-Westerly winds will strengthen, and overnight snow will turn to rain at all levels early in the morning. The freezing level will rise from 600 metres in the early part of the night, to 2000 metres during the day.

Forecast Snow Stability and Avalanche Hazard

The strengthening wind will re-deposit the soft surface layers of the existing snowpack, and deposit the fresh overnight snow, onto North-West through North to East aspects above 800 metres. Due to cross loading a few pockets will be found on other aspects. These deposits will be poorly bonded, and stability is likely to worsen as the temperature rises and the precipitation turns to rain. Avalanches will occur. Soft cornices will be prone to collapse. The avalanche hazard will be High.

Observed Avalanche Hazard - Sun 04/04/2010

Observed Weather Influences

Fresh snow fell overnight on light North-Westerly winds. During the day it was generally dry with some sunny spells and a freezing level of around 1000 metres.

Observed Snow Stability and Avalanche Hazard

Although very soft windslab was found on most aspects, deposits tend to be more significant on East to South aspects above 800 metres. This windslab is not well bonded to the underlying snowpack, and instabilities exist on many steep slopes, but again with East to South aspects being most affected. Numerous small soft slab avalanches, both natural and skier triggered, were noted on East and South-East aspects above 1000 metres. The avalanche hazard is Considerable.

Mountain Conditions

Observed Mountain Travel Conditions

Good cover above about 600 metres. Great skiing conditions, but the walking is quite hard work.

Comments

Alpine conditions in Lochaber on Sunday. With rain and strong winds forecast for tomorrow looks like it is back to West Coast conditions.