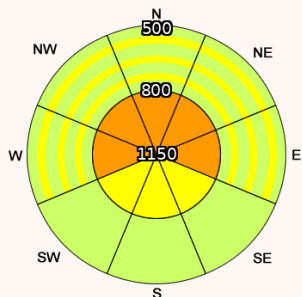


Avalanche Hazard Forecast - FOR PERIOD 18:00HRS Tue 16/02/2016 TO 18:00HRS Wed 17/02/2016



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

The freezing level will start to lower this evening falling to 400 metres. Overnight, gale force South-Westerly winds, these will decrease in strength during the day becoming fresh to moderate. Snow showers will affect the area right through the period until late afternoon.

Forecast Snow Stability and Avalanche Hazard

Overnight, heavy drifting will continue to deposit unstable windslab in all sheltered locations. Most affected will be steep North-West through North to North-East aspects above 800m where avalanches are likely. Cross loading is expected on some very sheltered East and West facing slopes and gullies developing localised instabilities. Cornices will be weak and prone to collapse. The avalanche hazard will be Considerable.

Observed Avalanche Hazard - Tue 16/02/2016

Observed Weather Influences

The freezing level slowly rose to just above the summits. During the morning persistent snow showers above 700 metres and strong Southerly winds. In the afternoon the snow showers turned to rain below 900 metres and the Southerly winds increased in strength.

Observed Snow Stability and Avalanche Hazard

New areas of unstable windslab exists on North-West to North-East aspects mainly above 800 metres. Other aspects are also affected due to cross loading with gully exits and corrie rims particularly affected. At lower elevations rain is starting to affect the snowpack leading to wet snow instabilities on steeper slopes. Cornices are unstable. The avalanche hazard is Considerable.

Mountain Conditions

Observed Mountain Travel Conditions

Wet snow below 750 metres, new snow at higher elevations. Poor visibility throughout the day above 600 metres. Gale force Southerly winds approx 50 - 60 mph making progress difficult.

Comments

Becoming more wintry.