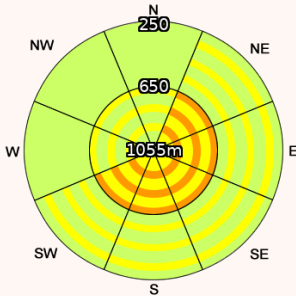


## Avalanche Hazard Forecast - FOR PERIOD 18:00HRS Sat 16/12/2017 TO 18:00HRS Sun 17/12/2017



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

Becoming milder with a thaw of lying snow. Rain at all levels overnight, clearing in the morning to showers and turning colder with some fresh snow on the higher summits as the freezing level settles to around 800 metres. Fresh to strong winds, generally West through the day.

### Forecast Snow Stability and Avalanche Hazard

A period of snowpack instability will occur overnight and through the morning. This will affect existing localised areas of moderately well bonded windslab in steep locations, on North-East through South-East to South-West aspects above 650 metres. Most affected will be gully exits, ridge flanks and core back walls, cornices will be prone to collapse. The avalanche hazard will be Considerable.

## Observed Avalanche Hazard - Sat 16/12/2017

### Observed Weather Influences

Cloudy with slow moving drizzly showers in the morning, wintry at higher elevations and becoming brighter later. Generally light Northerly winds, backing West and milder by the afternoon as the freezing level rose to around 650 metres.

### Observed Snow Stability and Avalanche Hazard

The snowpack generally is consolidating. However, localised pockets of moderately well bonded windslab persist in steep locations, mainly on North-East through South-East to South-West aspects above 700 metres. Typically gully exits, ridge flanks and coire backwalls are affected. Some moderate sized cornices observed above steep East facing slopes. The avalanche hazard is Moderate.

### Mountain Conditions

#### Observed Mountain Travel Conditions

Areas of deep snow and breakable crust at mid levels, very tiring conditions. A morning of flat light and no definition, brightening later. Winds on exposed areas approx 10 - 20 mph fresh and cooling.

#### Comments

Reasonable walking conditions, particularly in the afternoon and especially once on previously wind scoured ground.