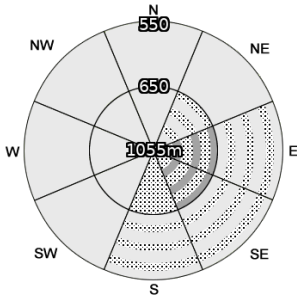


Avalanche Hazard Forecast - FOR PERIOD 18:00HRS Wed 31/01/2018 TO 18:00HRS Thu 01/02/2018



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

Strong to Gale force winds will be from the North-West. Frequent heavy snow showers are expected. It will remain cold with the freezing level rising slightly from 300 metres tonight to around 550 metres by late tomorrow afternoon.

Forecast Snow Stability and Avalanche Hazard

Extensive areas of windslab will accumulate on East to South aspects above 650 metres, especially around high coire rims, scarp slopes and gully tops. Cornices will continue to develop. West to North aspects will be wind exposed and become more scoured. The avalanche hazard will be Considerable.

Observed Avalanche Hazard - Wed 31/01/2018

Observed Weather Influences

Heavy snow showers to all levels with strong West-South-West winds. Poor visibility on the tops this morning with occasional breaks in the cloud later.

Observed Snow Stability and Avalanche Hazard

The older snow pack has refrozen becoming generally stable. Areas of windslab have accumulated on North-East through East to South aspects above 650 metres mainly on coire rims, scarp slopes and gully tops. Some cornice growth was observed on these aspects. The older snow pack is frozen with a surface crust at higher levels which is exposed on windward aspects. The avalanche hazard is Moderate.

Mountain Conditions

Observed Mountain Travel Conditions

Good snow cover above 550 metres - some exposed ridges scoured. Hard snow ice on exposed windward slopes. Poor visibility this morning, variable later.

Comments

Strong gusts today with lots of drifting snow. Areas of hard snow ice on higher slopes so crampons and ice axe were required.