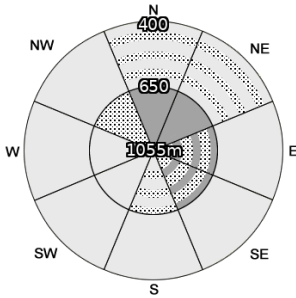


**Avalanche Hazard Forecast - FOR PERIOD 18:00HRS Wed 14/02/2018 TO 18:00HRS Thu 15/02/2018**



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**

Heavy snow showers are expected throughout the period with significant amounts of snow above 500 metres. The snow will drift in the very strong South-South-West wind, easing slightly through the day and backing South-West. Remaining cold, with the freezing level steady around 400 metres throughout.

**Forecast Snow Stability and Avalanche Hazard**

Areas of fresh unstable windslab will continue to develop throughout the period. Greatest accumulations will be on steep sheltered locations, North to East aspects above 650 metres, with gullies, coire rims and ridge flanks most affected. Additionally, pre-existing unstable windslab will persist on North-West through North-East to South-East aspects in similar locations. Cornices will be fragile. Exposed areas will be scoured. The avalanche hazard will be Considerable.

**Observed Avalanche Hazard - Wed 14/02/2018**

**Observed Weather Influences**

A thaw at lower levels with persistent driving rain, snow above 650 metres, easing to showers and brighter spells later. Strong to gale force South-South-East winds, gusting stronger at summit levels and the freezing level rose to peak at around 700 metres by the afternoon.

**Observed Snow Stability and Avalanche Hazard**

Heavy drifting and snow re-distribution at higher elevations. Areas of fresh unstable windslab continue to develop with greatest accumulations in steep sheltered locations, mainly on North-West to North-East aspects above 700 metres. Pre-existing unstable windslab persists in similar locations, North through East to South aspects. Cornices are fragile. Thawing and consolidating at lower elevations. Exposed slopes are scoured. The avalanche hazard is Considerable.

**Mountain Conditions**

**Observed Mountain Travel Conditions**

Deep snow cover above 650 metres - some exposed ridges scoured. A day of flat light and little definition. Winds 20-30mph, progress difficult at times with stronger gusts.

**Comments**

Significant amounts of fresh snow in wind sheltered locations at higher elevations. Hard going underfoot through areas of deep heavy snow. Wet snowpack at lower levels.