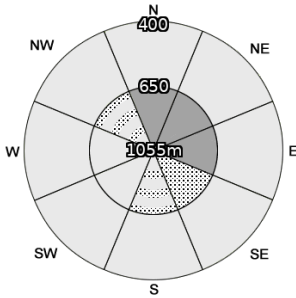


Avalanche Hazard Forecast - FOR PERIOD 18:00HRS Fri 16/02/2018 TO 18:00HRS Sat 17/02/2018



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

Remaining cold at higher elevations. Light scattered showers, wintry above 400 metres, will continue to feed in through the day, preceded by a more organised band of snow overnight. The strong Southerly wind will moderate through the day and gradually veer West-South-West. The freezing level will peak at 700 metres overnight, lowering to and remaining at 450 metres by daylight.

Forecast Snow Stability and Avalanche Hazard

Little change in the snowpack is expected. Areas of poorly bonded windslab will persist and continue to build in sheltered locations, mainly on North to East aspects above 650 metres. Most affected will be gullies, scarp slopes and coire rims. Localised instabilities will exist on other aspects in similar locations. Good snowpack stability on windward aspects and at lower elevations. Cornices will remain fragile. The avalanche hazard will be Considerable.

Observed Avalanche Hazard - Fri 16/02/2018

Observed Weather Influences

A cold day, with scattered heavy showers, wintry above 400 metres. Bright intervals between the showers with occasional sun and fairly extensive hill cloud, more broken away from the coast. A strong and generally South-West wind eased slightly through the day.

Observed Snow Stability and Avalanche Hazard

Areas of poorly bonded windslab persist and continue to build in wind sheltered locations, mainly on North to East aspects above 650 metres. Most affected are gullies, scarp slopes and coire rims. Localised instabilities exist on other aspects in similar locations. Good snowpack stability on windward aspects and at lower elevations. Cornices remain fragile. The avalanche hazard is Considerable.

Mountain Conditions

Observed Mountain Travel Conditions

Little snow below 400m but with drifting at higher altitudes. A day of flat light and poor definition, particularly during snow showers. Winds 20-30mph at higher elevations, progress difficult at times with stronger gusts.

Comments

Hard going through extensive areas of soft snow. Thawing snowpack at lower elevations. Areas of wind scoured terrain are firm and icy in places.