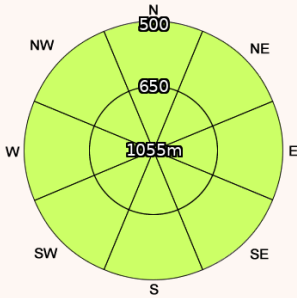


**Avalanche Hazard Forecast - FOR PERIOD 18:00HRS Wed 21/03/2018 TO 18:00HRS Thu 22/03/2018**



| 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**

It will remain mild throughout the period except for a colder spell in the day with the freezing level dropping briefly below the summits. Persistent rain at all levels overnight will ease by daybreak to give a dry morning before a dusting of summit snow later. The strong Westerly wind will ease for a time before strengthening through the day, backing to a strong South-South-Westerly.

**Forecast Snow Stability and Avalanche Hazard**

The thawing and wet snowpack will remain generally well consolidated and stable on all aspects and elevations. Some minor surface wet snow instabilities are possible, particularly steep slopes above 700 metres. Above 900 metres, the snowpack will begin to refreeze during the day. Any remaining weak cornices will be prone to collapse. The avalanche hazard will be Low.

**Observed Avalanche Hazard - Wed 21/03/2018**

**Observed Weather Influences**

Mild, cloudy and wet. Persistent rain at all levels, turning to heavy drizzle later. Cloud base around 500 metres and the freezing level well above the summits. A fresh South-Westerly wind veered Westerly through the afternoon.

**Observed Snow Stability and Avalanche Hazard**

A thawing, wet and diminishing snowpack, particularly at lower elevations, but remaining well consolidated and generally stable throughout. Large bare areas are forming although good snow amounts remain above 650 metres where it is generally firm below a softer surface layer. The avalanche hazard is Low.

**Mountain Conditions**

**Observed Mountain Travel Conditions**

Diminishing snowpack, but remaining good above 650 metres. Poor visibility throughout the day above 600 metres. Winds approximately 10-20mph with stronger gusts.

**Comments**

Diminishing snowpack, with large bare areas appearing, but the main snowpack will survive the thaw. Colder again through Friday.