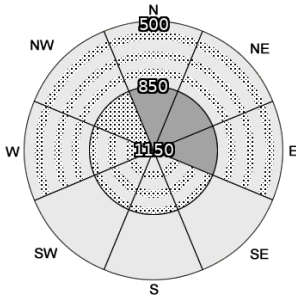


**Avalanche Hazard Forecast - FOR PERIOD 18:00HRS Wed 18/12/2019 TO 18:00HRS Thu 19/12/2019**



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**

A spell of persistent rain and snow this evening with snow initially falling to 500 metres accompanied by gale force Southerly winds. The freezing level rising above the summits with some rain. Then becoming mainly dry overnight and through tomorrow with freezing levels around the highest summits leading to a thaw at lower elevations. Winds easing later in the day.

**Forecast Snow Stability and Avalanche Hazard**

Overnight, as the freezing level rises above the summits rain will affect the snowpack leading to thaw conditions and wet snow instabilities on all steep aspects where avalanches are likely. Areas especially affected will be on North-West through North to East aspects above 850 metres especially steep slopes in sheltered locations, particularly corrie rims, gully flanks and exits, cornices will be prone to collapse affecting slopes below. The avalanche hazard will be Considerable.

**Observed Avalanche Hazard - Wed 18/12/2019**

**Observed Weather Influences**

Light winds were from a South-Easterly direction, cloud covered skies, mainly dry with the freezing at around 650 metres.

**Observed Snow Stability and Avalanche Hazard**

Instabilities persist in the snowpack, mainly on North to East aspects above 850 metres. Areas mostly affected are steep slopes in sheltered locations, particularly corrie rims, gully flanks and their exits. Other aspects are also affected due to previous cross loading and cornices are soft and fragile. The avalanche hazard is Considerable.

**Mountain Conditions**

**Observed Mountain Travel Conditions**

Areas of deep snow cover above 800 metres - some exposed ridges have less snow cover. Light South-Easterly winds, around 10mph at first but strengthening winds in the afternoon . Clear spells in the morning with poorer visibility in the afternoon.

**Comments**

New snow is likely above 1000 metres but it could be rain also!