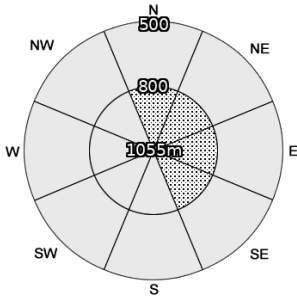


Avalanche Hazard Forecast - FOR PERIOD 18:00HRS Fri 17/01/2020 TO 18:00HRS Sat 18/01/2020



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

Snow showers are expected throughout the period, becoming more isolated through the afternoon, with snow above 400 metres overnight, 650 metres later. The strong Westerly wind will gradually ease through the period. The freezing level will lower to around 500 metres overnight, rising to 800 metres by the end of the day.

Forecast Snow Stability and Avalanche Hazard

The areas of old snowpack will remain stable throughout. Localised areas of moderately bonded windslab will continue to accumulate in sheltered locations mainly North through East to South-East aspects above 800 metres. Most affected will be ridge flanks, scarp slopes, coire rims and gully tops where it gains depth and extent. Fresh cornice growth above similar locations. Exposed areas will be scoured. The avalanche hazard will be Moderate.

Observed Avalanche Hazard - Fri 17/01/2020

Observed Weather Influences

Wintry showers after a period of prolonged precipitation early morning. Strong to very strong South-West, veering West winds. The freezing level peaked at around 850 metres by midday.

Observed Snow Stability and Avalanche Hazard

The areas of old snowpack are consolidating and have good stability. Small areas and pockets of fresh windslab are accumulating in steep sheltered locations, North to East aspects mainly above 800 metres, but remain generally shallow. Elsewhere, wind exposed summits and ridges are scoured. Limited new cornice growth noted. The avalanche hazard is Low.

Mountain Conditions

Observed Mountain Travel Conditions

Soft wet old snowpack, icy around summits. Good visibility generally, poor in the showers. Summit winds 30-40 mph, progress difficult in gusts, blowing us over on occasion.

Comments

It will remain wintry at higher elevations over the weekend with strong winds continuing. Milder on Sunday afternoon.