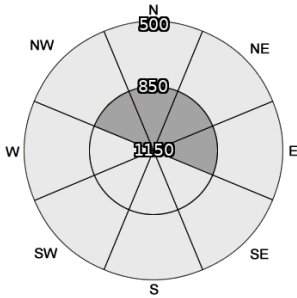


Avalanche Hazard Forecast - FOR PERIOD 18:00HRS Sat 08/02/2020 TO 18:00HRS Sun 09/02/2020



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

Heavy new snow above 800 metres and strong variable Southerly winds on Saturday evening will affect the area. On Sunday there will be frequent squally and often heavy snow showers affecting lower slopes by the end of the day. Winds will be mainly South-Westerly gale to severe gale with stronger gusts in exposed locations.(Storm Ciara) The freezing level will be around 600 metres for much of the night rising above the tops briefly by morning then lowering to 800 metres through the day.

Forecast Snow Stability and Avalanche Hazard

Unstable accumulations of deep windslab will exist in sheltered areas such as gullies and slopes with a North-West through North to South-Easterly aspect mainly above 850 metres. Other areas may be affected by cross loading. Cornices will be fragile and avalanches are likely. The avalanche hazard will be Considerable.

Observed Avalanche Hazard - Sat 08/02/2020

Observed Weather Influences

New snow above 700 metres affected the area overnight, it has been mainly dry today. Winds have been strong to gale force generally Southerly. The freezing level is around 850 metres.

Observed Snow Stability and Avalanche Hazard

Unstable windslab is present mainly above 900 metres in areas sheltered from the strong Southerly winds, greatest accumulations are in sheltered summit gullies and on slopes with a North-West through North to Easterly aspect. Fragile cornices exist above many of these areas. Windward slopes are scoured and where older snow remains the surface is very firm and icy. The avalanche hazard is Moderate.

Mountain Conditions

Observed Mountain Travel Conditions

No snow below 500m but with cover is reasonable at higher altitudes. A day of flat light and no definition. Winds 30 -40 mph mainly Southerly.

Comments

Stormy outlook for the next couple of days. The old snowpack where exposed will be very hard, icy and unforgiving with potentially serious run outs onto rocks. Hazard will increase later Saturday as heavy precipitation with snow on higher slopes expected late afternoon.