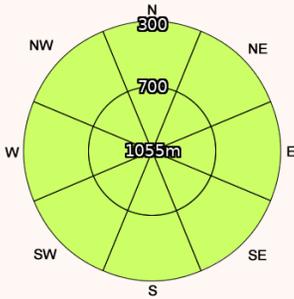


Avalanche Hazard Forecast - FOR PERIOD 18:00HRS Fri 14/02/2020 TO 18:00HRS Sat 15/02/2020



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

During the day, a band of rain, sleet and snow will cross the area, becoming cooler and more showery in the afternoon with summit snow. A strong South-Westerly wind will strengthen ahead of the weather front, becoming storm force South-South-East mid morning before easing and veering South-West later. The freezing level will briefly rise above the summits late morning, lowering to 600 metres by the end of the period.

Forecast Snow Stability and Avalanche Hazard

The snowpack will consolidate through the period, becoming generally stable throughout. However, a brief thaw with associated rain will encourage minor wet snow surface instabilities in very steep locations such as scarp slopes and gully exits, North through East to South-East aspects above 750 metres. Pockets of fresh windslab will form throughout the period, North-West to North-East aspects above 700 metres, but will not be significant. The avalanche hazard will be Low.

Observed Avalanche Hazard - Fri 14/02/2020

Observed Weather Influences

A band of rain, briefly at all levels, crossed the area in the morning followed by a cooler showery afternoon with bright spells and some summit snow. A persistent strong to gale force generally Southerly wind. The freezing level rose above the tops in the morning, lowering to around 700 metres later.

Observed Snow Stability and Avalanche Hazard

A brief thaw at all levels occurred through the morning, with a heightened period of snowpack instability in very steep locations, followed by a general consolidation. Minor deposits of fresh windslab occurred in the afternoon, mainly on steep sheltered North to East aspects above 800 metres. The avalanche hazard is Moderate.

Mountain Conditions

Observed Mountain Travel Conditions

Deep snow cover remains in places - some exposed ridges scoured. Poor visibility throughout the day during rain and showers, otherwise good. Winds generally 20-30 mph, strengthening later in the day.

Comments

Periods of rain sleet and snow with brighter intervals at times and severe gales to summit, storm force winds expected over the weekend associated with Storm Dennis.