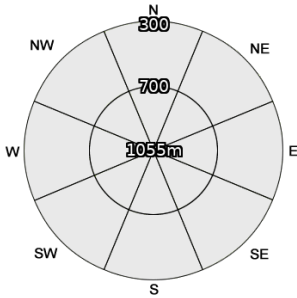


**Avalanche Hazard Forecast - FOR PERIOD 18:00HRS Fri 14/02/2020 TO 18:00HRS Sat 15/02/2020**



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**

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.