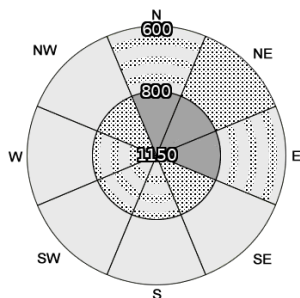


**Avalanche Hazard Forecast - FOR PERIOD 18:00HRS Sat 15/02/2020 TO 18:00HRS Sun 16/02/2020**



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**

Gale to severe gale occasionally storm force South-Westerlies will affect the area. New snow overnight and on Sunday will give some prolonged periods above 500 metres. The freezing level will be around 500 metres.

**Forecast Snow Stability and Avalanche Hazard**

The existing wet snowpack will firm up with a return to colder conditions overnight and could be very icy in places. Stormy conditions will form unstable windslab in areas sheltered from the South-Westerly gales. Greatest accumulations will be in sheltered gullies and on slopes with a Northerly to South-Easterly aspect mainly above 800 metres. Other aspects may be affected by cross loading. Avalanches are likely and cornices will be fragile. The avalanche hazard will be Considerable.

**Observed Avalanche Hazard - Sat 15/02/2020**

**Observed Weather Influences**

Very heavy rain today has saturated the snowpack causing fairly widespread reduction of cover at lower levels. Colder conditions returning later will give new snow which will be heavy at times mainly above 800 metres.

**Observed Snow Stability and Avalanche Hazard**

Heavy rain and very mild conditions gave a period of higher instability. Wet snow instabilities exist on steep slopes in gullies and on Northerly to Easterly aspects above 800 metres particularly where deeper accumulations of snow exist. The avalanche hazard is Considerable.

**Mountain Conditions**

**Observed Mountain Travel Conditions**

Diminishing snowpack, good above 800 metres. Very wet today. Winds approx 40 - 50 mph stronger on summits.

**Comments**

Snow melt and heavy rain brought a rapid rise in river levels. This gave a landslide which partially covered the A82 road. Wild and windy again tomorrow with potential for a large dump of new snow. Challenging mountain conditions expected. Old snow where exposed will be hard, icy and unforgiving.