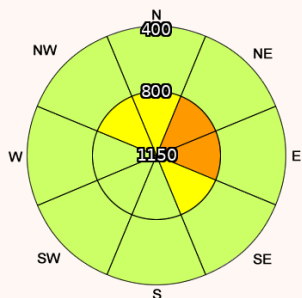


Avalanche Hazard Forecast - FOR PERIOD 18:00HRS Fri 21/02/2020 TO 18:00HRS Sat 22/02/2020



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

Overnight, a cold front will move across the area lowering the freezing level quite rapidly to around 400 metres. Snow showers will fall to lower levels through the period with very strong West-South-Westerly winds.

Forecast Snow Stability and Avalanche Hazard

The old wet snowpack will consolidate and refreeze. New snow and strong winds will form areas of weakly bonded windslab in wind sheltered places. Greatest accumulations on North-East to East aspects above 800 metres with steep gullies, scarp slopes and coire rims most affected. Localised windslab will develop on North-West, North and South-East aspects due to cross loading. Cornices will be fragile. Elsewhere wind scoured slopes bare and often icy. The avalanche hazard will be Considerable.

Observed Avalanche Hazard - Fri 21/02/2020

Observed Weather Influences

Mild conditions have affected the areas with the freezing level above the summits. Driving heavy rain, monsoon like at times, accompanied by gale force West-South-Westerly winds.

Observed Snow Stability and Avalanche Hazard

The snowpack is rain saturated at most levels. Wet snow instabilities are present on all steep slopes but mainly on North-West through North to South-Easterly aspects above 800 metres. Cornices are unstable and prone to collapse. The avalanche hazard is Considerable.

Mountain Conditions

Observed Mountain Travel Conditions

West-South-Westerly winds approx 40-60 mph, progress often difficult. Heavy rain and poor visibility at most levels today. Generally wet snow throughout.

Comments

Stormy conditions for the next few days with very strong Westerlywinds and drifting snow.