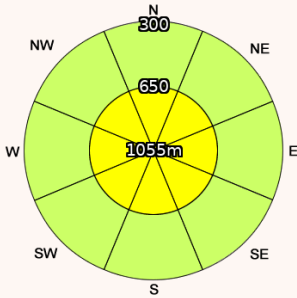


Avalanche Hazard Forecast - FOR PERIOD 18:00HRS Sun 23/02/2020 TO 18:00HRS Mon 24/02/2020



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

Winds will be fresh West-North-West easing tonight becoming light Easterly then gradually increase in strength to strong East-North-Easterly. It will be dry this evening and overnight with light snow showers expected by mid morning. The freezing level will lower from around 600 metres to 300 metres.

Forecast Snow Stability and Avalanche Hazard

At first unstable windslab will continue to gain depth on North-East to Southerly aspects above 650 meters affecting wind sheltered coire rims, gullies and ridge flanks. As the winds turn Easterly and strengthen tomorrow morning drifting snow will gain depth, building poorly bonded windslab on to the current icy wind crust surface layers present on South-West to North-West aspects above 650 meters. Cross loading and fragile cornices will also be present. The avalanche hazard will be Moderate.

Observed Avalanche Hazard - Sun 23/02/2020

Observed Weather Influences

The strong Westerly winds veered to West-North-West by midday and remained strong. There have been moderate blustery snow showers with the freezing level rising to around 600 metres.

Observed Snow Stability and Avalanche Hazard

Moderately bonded windslab has gained depth above 650 metres on North-East to Southerly aspects. Wind sheltered coire rims ridge flanks and gullies being affected by these instabilities. There has also been significant cornice growth and these are becoming overhanging and fragile. Cross loading was also evident on coire headwalls and wind sheltered terrain features such as stream banks and cuttings. Some wind scoured aspects have a hard icy wind surface crust. The avalanche hazard is Moderate.

Mountain Conditions

Observed Mountain Travel Conditions

Deep snow cover deepening above 500m - some exposed ridges scoured with an icy surface crust. Reasonable visibility at first with poor visibility in clouds and snow by mid morning. Some sunshine in the glen later. Winds approx 40 - 50 mph making progress very difficult and strenuous.

Comments

Unsettled weather continues, low pressure moving in for Monday. Freezing level staying low for now.