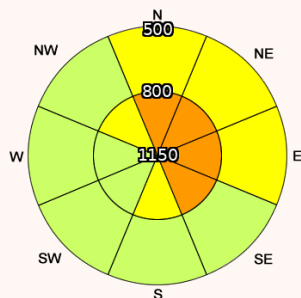


Avalanche Hazard Forecast - FOR PERIOD 18:00HRS Wed 18/03/2020 TO 18:00HRS Thu 19/03/2020



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

Strong West-South-West winds and new snow overnight, during Thursday winds will veer West-North-West becoming fresh with further snow showers later in the day. The freezing level through the day will be around 400 metres.

Forecast Snow Stability and Avalanche Hazard

Unstable windslab will continue to develop in sheltered locations. Greatest accumulations will be in sheltered gullies and on slopes with a Northerly through East to Southerly aspect mainly above 800 metres. Steep scarp slopes, corniced areas and summit gullies will be particularly affected. The older snowpack will be firm and very icy in exposed locations. Cornices will be fragile and prone to collapse. The avalanche hazard will be Considerable

Observed Avalanche Hazard - Wed 18/03/2020

Observed Weather Influences

New snow fell overnight and this afternoon, winds have been strong from a West-South-Westerly direction. The freezing level is around 700 metres.

Observed Snow Stability and Avalanche Hazard

Colder conditions with new snow and quite extensive wind transport at higher levels are forming areas of deep unstable windslab in sheltered areas such as summit gullies and on slopes with a Northerly to South-Easterly aspect mainly above 850 metres. Large fragile cornices are forming above some of these areas. The older snowpack where exposed is generally stable with a firm and very icy surface. The avalanche hazard is Considerable.

Mountain Conditions

Observed Mountain Travel Conditions

Very hard snow ice on some exposed windward slopes with extensive drifting onto lee slopes. Clearer in the morning with poor visibility in clouds and snow showers in the afternoon. Winds 30-40 mph, blustery.

Comments

Wind transport of new snow a major feature today. Exposed older snow is firm and has a very icy surface in places. Serious run out potential for uncontrolled slips or falls.