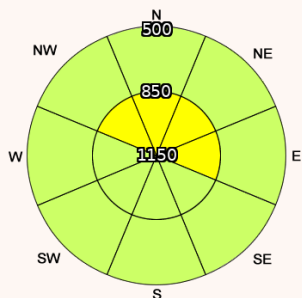


Avalanche Hazard Forecast - FOR PERIOD 18:00HRS Sun 22/03/2020 TO 18:00HRS Mon 23/03/2020



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

Dry conditions will generally dominate. Southerly winds will continue to strengthen through Sunday evening with gales becoming widespread during the day. The freezing level will be above the summits but the air mass over the mountains will remain cool, rising later.

Forecast Snow Stability and Avalanche Hazard

Strong winds will scour and transport existing snow forming new shallow deposits of poorly bonded windslab in sheltered locations. Also, older pockets of marginally bonded windslab will still persist in steep locations. Instabilities will mainly be on NW through North to East aspects above 850 metres. Areas notably affected will be sheltered gullies, scarp slopes and steep coire headwalls. Large cornices will continue to develop above most of these aspects. The avalanche hazard will be Moderate

Observed Avalanche Hazard - Sun 22/03/2020

Observed Weather Influences

It has remained dry and clear through this period, fresh South-Easterly winds veered to the South. Summit temperatures were around minus 2.6 degrees celsius.

Observed Snow Stability and Avalanche Hazard

Localised pockets of unstable windslab still persist in steep locations such as sheltered gullies, scarp slopes and steep coire headwalls mainly on North to East aspects above 850 metres. SE aspects are partially affected. Elsewhere, the snowpack is generally stable with some icy areas above 850 metres. Human triggered avalanche activity noted from yesterday on NE aspect, start zone around 960m. The avalanche hazard is Moderate.

Mountain Conditions

Observed Mountain Travel Conditions

Snow above 550 metres - large icy areas above 850m. Cool, mainly clear conditions through most of the day. Winds, fresh to strong at times from a SSE direction.

Comments

The snowpack will start to soften slightly. Some rain is forecast for Tuesday. COVID-19 is creating unprecedented challenges to our healthcare system. Mountain users need be extra vigilant to the possibility of any type of incident that could add more load to a system already under huge pressure. Please consider this fact while planning your journey.