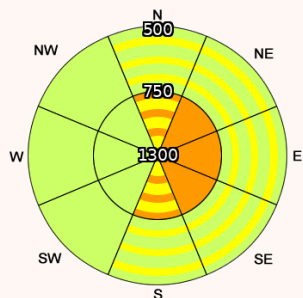


# Northern Cairngorms - Issued 18/12/2014

## Avalanche Hazard Forecast - FOR PERIOD 18:00HRS Thu 18/12/2014 TO 18:00HRS Fri 19/12/2014



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

Winds will be very strong West-South-Westerly then Westerly with snow showers, sometimes heavy down to 300 metre levels. Freezing levels around 500 metres.

### Forecast Snow Stability and Avalanche Hazard

Accumulations of unstable windslab will form on North-East to South-Easterly aspects mainly above 750 metres where avalanches are likely, Northerly and Southerly aspects will also be affected due to the cross loading of snow into wind sheltered places. Remaining bare and scoured on West aspects. The avalanche hazard will be Considerable

## Observed Avalanche Hazard - Thu 18/12/2014

### Observed Weather Influences

Strong Westerly winds with gradually increasing levels of precipitation falling as snow on the tops. Freezing level above summits at first gradually lowering through the day.

### Observed Snow Stability and Avalanche Hazard

The snowpack has slowly consolidated and is generally stable throughout, some instabilities remain but these are confined to isolated locations in the steepest places on North-East to Easterly aspects above 950m. Some drifting of new snow has started to accumulate deposits on these aspects also but are not significant. Bare and scoured on West aspects. The avalanche hazard is Moderate

### Mountain Conditions

#### Observed Mountain Travel Conditions

Diminishing snowpack, soft, with developing crust. Cloud above 1000m throughout day. Winds 20 -30 mph progress difficult at times with stronger gusts.

#### Comments

Storm force winds with snowfall and blizzards expected.