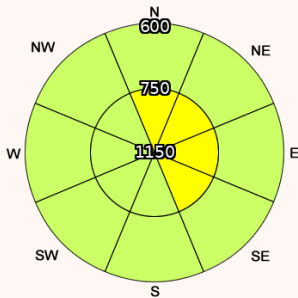


Southern Cairngorms - Issued 20/02/2022

Avalanche Hazard Forecast - FOR PERIOD 18:00HRS Sun 20/02/2022 TO 18:00HRS Mon 21/02/2022



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

Gale to Storm Force Westerly winds. Overnight showers falling as snow above 200 metres will ease by late morning. The freezing level is expected to rise from 400 metres to around 700 metres.

Forecast Snow Stability and Avalanche Hazard

Fresh deposits of moderately bonded windslab will accumulate on North through East to South-East aspects above 750 metres. These instabilities are expected to be localised affecting wind sheltered locations such as steep corrie headwalls, gully tops, crag aprons and the leeward side of ridge crests. Cornices will be fragile. On other aspects and at lower elevations, the snowpack will be generally stable. The avalanche hazard will be Moderate.

Observed Avalanche Hazard - Sun 20/02/2022

Observed Weather Influences

Storm Force Westerly winds. Light snow showers. Freezing level around 1000 metres.

Observed Snow Stability and Avalanche Hazard

Wet snow instabilities were observed on North through East to South-East aspects above 700 metres. Here multiple wet snow avalanches had occurred. As the freezing level dropped during the afternoon, the snowpack started to stabilise. The avalanche hazard is Moderate.

Mountain Conditions

Observed Mountain Travel Conditions

Diminishing snowpack below 700m, lots of post holing through wet snow. Visibility variable above 800m. Winds approx 75 mph and above, serious and challenging conditions on the higher tops.

Comments

Fluctuating temperatures ahead with some rain and snow in the forecast. What remains a constant is the Gale/Storm Force winds which are set to continue until at least Wednesday.