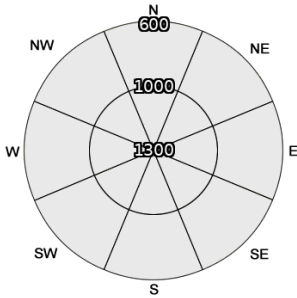


Northern Cairngorms - Issued 18/03/2023

Avalanche Hazard Forecast - FOR PERIOD 18:00HRS Sat 18/03/2023 TO 18:00HRS Sun 19/03/2023



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

Some light summit snow overnight will leave a dry day with the freezing level lowering to around 900 metres. Fresh North-Westerly winds will increase slightly overnight before easing throughout the day.

Forecast Snow Stability and Avalanche Hazard

The existing snowpack will start to re-freeze in the cooler temperatures, continue to consolidate and stabilise further. Any remaining weakness within the snowpack will persist on very steep terrain. Greatest amounts can be found above 800 metres, patchy below. The avalanche hazard will be Low.

Observed Avalanche Hazard - Sat 18/03/2023

Observed Weather Influences

It has been a day of persistent mountain drizzle. The freezing level remained above the summits with moderate South-Easterly winds.

Observed Snow Stability and Avalanche Hazard

The saturated snowpack continues to stabilise in the mild conditions. Isolated weaknesses still persist within the snowpack on North-West through North to East aspects above 1000 metres, particularly on steep convexities, gully tops and coire rims. The avalanche hazard is Moderate.

Mountain Conditions

Observed Mountain Travel Conditions

Wet snow throughout. Cloud base was at 700 metres all day. Winds approx 10 - 20 mph.

Comments

The snowpack will start to refreeze above 900 metres with a gradual thaw continuing at lower elevations.