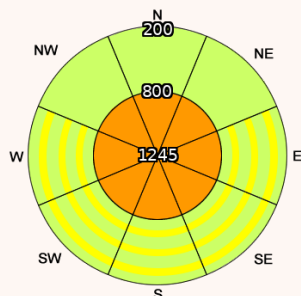


Northern Cairngorms - Issued 07/01/2010

Avalanche Hazard Forecast - FOR PERIOD 18:00HRS Thu 07/01/2010 TO 18:00HRS Fri 08/01/2010



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 very light snow showers may occur overnight on a North-Easterly breeze. During the day the winds will be Easterly and light with no precipitation. Minus 9 degrees celsius on the tops.

Forecast Snow Stability and Avalanche Hazard

The snowpack will continue to contain weakly bonded layers on all aspects mainly above 800 metres. Where windslab has formed on the top of this snowpack avalanches are likely, in particular Corrie rims, gully flanks and sheltered lee slopes on East through South to West aspects above 900 metres will be affected. The avalanche hazard will be Considerable

Observed Avalanche Hazard - Thu 07/01/2010

Observed Weather Influences

It has been a calm, dry day with poor visibility in the dense cloud above 600m. Visibility improving in afternoon.

Observed Snow Stability and Avalanche Hazard

The snowpack contains weakly bonded layers on all aspects above 800 metres and is generally unconsolidated. On a West aspect at 1050 metres field tests produced multiple failures throughout the snowpack on buried surface hoar and faceted grains. On mainly East through South to Westerly aspects above 900 metres windslab overlies this weak snowpack, in particular corrie rims and steeper slopes are affected. The avalanche hazard is Considerable

Mountain Conditions

Observed Mountain Travel Conditions

Deep snow on all aspects. Ridges have been scoured and old hard snow has been exposed.

Comments

Hard going in the deep snow - some brave souls have spent a large part of the day trail breaking into Coire an t Sneachda !!. Good route finding required in the unstable conditions..