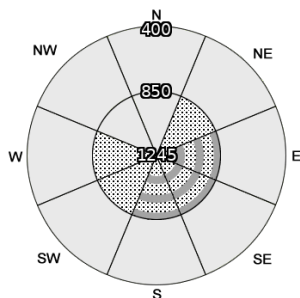


Northern Cairngorms - Issued 27/01/2010

Avalanche Hazard Forecast - FOR PERIOD 18:00HRS Wed 27/01/2010 TO 18:00HRS Thu 28/01/2010



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

Overnight and during the day the winds will be strong North-Westerly with some snow. The freezing level will be at 500 metres during the day.

Forecast Snow Stability and Avalanche Hazard

The snowpack will continue to consolidate and stabilise at all levels and on most aspects. Some new accumulations of snow will form unstable windslab on mainly East to South aspects above 850 metres, but localised accumulations will form in sheltered locations on North-East and West aspects due to cross loading. The avalanche hazard will be Considerable

Observed Avalanche Hazard - Wed 27/01/2010

Observed Weather Influences

It has been mild wet and windy, cooling progressively as the day progressed, with summit temperatures well below freezing level in the afternoon. The wind became strong West-North-Westerly with snow showers

Observed Snow Stability and Avalanche Hazard

The snowpack has consolidated following the recent thaw and is generally well bonded and stable at all levels and on all aspects. This has improved further with arrival of colder temperatures. Some surface instabilities existed on steeper slopes during the morning and cornices remained unstable. The avalanche hazard is Moderate.

Mountain Conditions

Observed Mountain Travel Conditions

Good cover above 400m.

Comments

Becoming colder again late on thursday with snow at all levels.