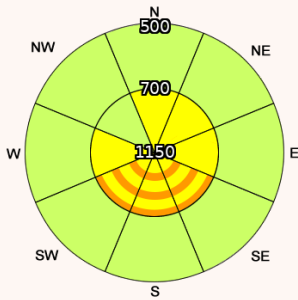


Southern Cairngorms - Issued 01/02/2010

Avalanche Hazard Forecast - FOR PERIOD 18:00HRS Mon 01/02/2010 TO 18:00HRS Tue 02/02/2010



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

Continued cold temperatures will prevail, with light, variable direction winds becoming light North-North-West later with isolated snow showers.

Forecast Snow Stability and Avalanche Hazard

Hard old windslab sandwiched between soft graupel layers will remain weakly bonded. Instabilities in the snowpack will be mainly concentrated in isolated pockets on steep South-East to South-West aspects above 700 metres where avalanches are likely. The avalanche hazard will be Considerable

Observed Avalanche Hazard - Mon 01/02/2010

Observed Weather Influences

It was a mainly cloudy day with light Northerly quarter winds, temperatures below freezing at all elevations and snow showers developing in the afternoon.

Observed Snow Stability and Avalanche Hazard

The snowpack still has several weak layers above the well bonded base. The upper snowpack remains cold and has instabilities giving failures on soft graupel layers between harder older wind slab on mainly South-East to South-West aspects above 700 metres. The avalanche hazard is Considerable.

Mountain Conditions

Observed Mountain Travel Conditions

Good snow cover above 550 metres, particularly Southerly aspects.

Comments

It's often interesting to think what is the depth of snow we're travelling over or below. Is that 10cm over there or 1 metre with a weak layer above us on the gully exit?.