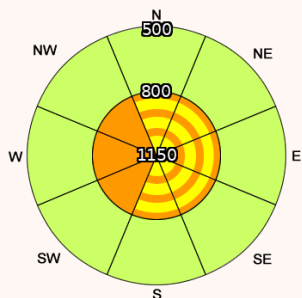


Southern Cairngorms - Issued 23/02/2010

Avalanche Hazard Forecast - FOR PERIOD 18:00HRS Tue 23/02/2010 TO 18:00HRS Wed 24/02/2010



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

There is about 10cm of snow expected in the forecast period. Moderately strong winds will be from the East with temperatures remaining cold.

Forecast Snow Stability and Avalanche Hazard

New weakly bonded slab will build quickly on mainly South-West to North-Westerly aspects above 800 metres where avalanches are likely. Localised unstable on other aspects. Avalanches may release into deeper buried facet and surface hoar layers previously identified. The avalanche hazard will be Considerable.

Observed Avalanche Hazard - Tue 23/02/2010

Observed Weather Influences

A cold nearly perfectly clear day with light Southerly winds.

Observed Snow Stability and Avalanche Hazard

The continued cold temperatures have slowed any major change in the snowpack. Surface hoar and near surface instability persists on very steep ground but loose snow avalanches are very isolated. The facet layers still exist but does not have critical load. The deeper snowpack is strong. The avalanche hazard is Moderate.

Mountain Conditions

Observed Mountain Travel Conditions

A significant redistribution of old and new snow in the next few days

Comments

Major change ahead in the next few days with avalanche hazard expected to increase and avalanches to become more widespread by aspect and elevation.