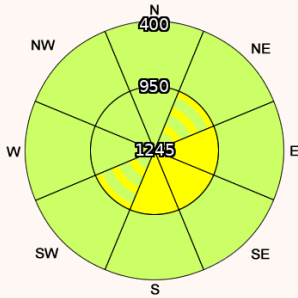


Northern Cairngorms - Issued 12/03/2010

Avalanche Hazard Forecast - FOR PERIOD 18:00HRS Fri 12/03/2010 TO 18:00HRS Sat 13/03/2010



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

It will be mostly dry with occasional isolated snow flurries. The winds will be moderate to strong North-Westerlies with a freezing level of around 800 metres.

Forecast Snow Stability and Avalanche Hazard

Some drifting will take place at higher altitudes. Snowpack instabilities will affect mainly steep Easterly to Southerly aspects above 950 metres. Isolated accumulations will lie in sheltered locations such as gully flanks and scarp slopes. Elsewhere the snowpack will remain generally well bonded and stable. The avalanche hazard will be Moderate.

Observed Avalanche Hazard - Fri 12/03/2010

Observed Weather Influences

There have been snow showers above 600 metres with very poor visibility. The winds were moderate North-Westerly and the freezing level was around 1000 metres.

Observed Snow Stability and Avalanche Hazard

New accumulations of windslab have developed mainly on Easterly to Southerly aspects above 950 metres. Weaknesses were noted within the new slab during tests on a South-East aspect at 1150 metres. Elsewhere the snowpack is generally well bonded and stable on all aspects and altitudes. The avalanche hazard is Considerable.

Mountain Conditions

Observed Mountain Travel Conditions

Cover still good, icy at high altitudes, spring snow at lower levels.

Comments

Very poor visibility today.