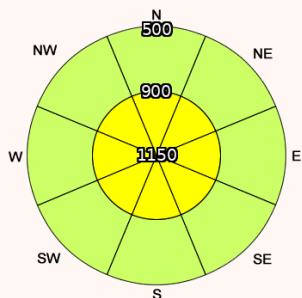


Southern Cairngorms - Issued 25/03/2010

Avalanche Hazard Forecast - FOR PERIOD 18:00HRS Thu 25/03/2010 TO 18:00HRS Fri 26/03/2010



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

Rain is forecast overnight, turning to sleet in the morning, then to snow later in the day. Summit temperatures will start warm falling below freezing later with the cooler, variable, then strengthening South-Westerly air stream.

Forecast Snow Stability and Avalanche Hazard

Initially warm temperatures will promote surface instabilities on steep slopes on all aspects mainly above 900 metres. Later in the day new unstable windslab will start to develop mainly on North to East aspects above 900 metres. At lower elevations, the snowpack is well bonded and stable. The avalanche hazard will be Moderate.

Observed Avalanche Hazard - Thu 25/03/2010

Observed Weather Influences

A cloudy day with some light showers at times. Winds started as moderate Easterlies and backed to light Northerlies by the afternoon. Summit temperatures around 2C during the day.

Observed Snow Stability and Avalanche Hazard

The overnight freeze and cloudy conditions during the day kept the snow surface firm and stable at all elevations and aspects. The avalanche hazard is Low.

Mountain Conditions

Observed Mountain Travel Conditions

The thaw has slowed. Coverage is still reasonable above 800 metres.

Comments

Looks as though temperatures are heading downwards again and winter may yet see a reprieve. Tomorrow afternoon may see some blizzard conditions towards the end of the day as the wind and snowfall picks up.