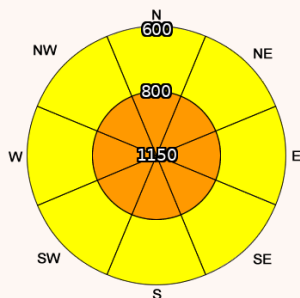


Southern Cairngorms - Issued 03/04/2010

Avalanche Hazard Forecast - FOR PERIOD 18:00HRS Sat 03/04/2010 TO 18:00HRS Sun 04/04/2010



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

Freezing level will vary between 800 down to 400 metres. There will be snow at higher elevations with variable, changeable winds going from North-north-west to Westerly then South-south-west.

Forecast Snow Stability and Avalanche Hazard

New snow will add to the unstable slab. The distribution of this slab will become more widespread covering nearly all aspects above 800m. Droopy cornices will be very weak. The avalanche hazard will be Considerable.

Observed Avalanche Hazard - Sat 03/04/2010

Observed Weather Influences

The rain/snowline was around 750 metre elevation with moderate Easterly quarter winds. Precipitation eased off in the afternoon with some clear breaks.

Observed Snow Stability and Avalanche Hazard

A new unstable slab has developed on Westerly aspects. The slab from the recent major storm has consolidated and is reasonably stable. Some cornices looked very droopy. On Westerly aspects above 800 metres the avalanche hazard is Considerable.

Mountain Conditions

Observed Mountain Travel Conditions

Spring powder in higher elevations, moist powder then moist snow to around 650 metres where cover is complete.

Comments

The snow profile today showed a pencil hard slab about 25cm thick sitting on very soft snow. This sheared easily. (See blog photo). Distribution of the slab among sastrugi and icy patches is highly variable.