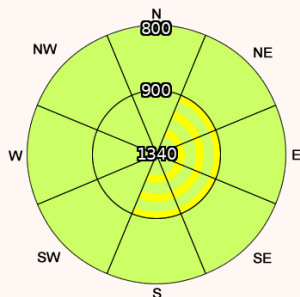


Avalanche Hazard Forecast - FOR PERIOD 18:00HRS Fri 16/04/2010 TO 18:00HRS Sat 17/04/2010



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

A change in the weather is expected. The freezing level will drop from 1800 metres overnight, to around 1000 metres during the day. Showers, initially of sleet, will turn to snow above 800 metres. Moderate winds will be from the West-North-West.

Forecast Snow Stability and Avalanche Hazard

The existing snowpack will re-freeze during the day and will be generally stable. Fresh, localised accumulations of unstable windslab will be deposited on North-East, through East to South aspects above 1000 metres. These deposits are not expected to be particularly extensive with the tops of slopes and gullies being most affected. The avalanche hazard will be Moderate.

Observed Avalanche Hazard - Fri 16/04/2010

Observed Weather Influences

After a cool clear night, it was a dry and sunny day. The freezing level was above the summits. Light winds were from the South-West.

Observed Snow Stability and Avalanche Hazard

The snowpack froze during the night softened through the day on Southerly aspects on the surface. On Northerly aspects, and in other shady locations it remained firm. Stability is generally good. Remaining sections of cornice are prone to collapse. The avalanche hazard is Low.

Mountain Conditions

Observed Mountain Travel Conditions

Good cover of spring snow above 1000 metres.

Comments

Weekend SAIS avalanche forecasts will be issued in Lochaber and North Cairngorms for Saturday and Sunday (16th and 17th of April).