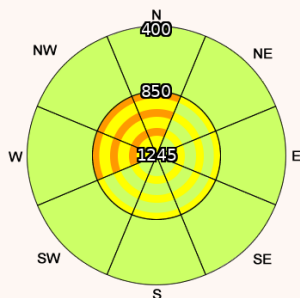


Northern Cairngorms - Issued 05/02/2011

Avalanche Hazard Forecast - FOR PERIOD 18:00HRS Sat 05/02/2011 TO 18:00HRS Sun 06/02/2011



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 dry overnight with strong Westerly winds. Snow showers are expected on moderate South-East winds during Sunday afternoon and the freezing level will fall to 500 metres.

Forecast Snow Stability and Avalanche Hazard

Localised instabilities will remain on steep slopes. On Westerly to Northerly aspects above 850 metres new windslab will form. Snowpack weaknesses will affect areas mainly where the deeper deposits develop. Elsewhere the snowpack will remain firm and stable. The avalanche hazard will be Considerable.

Observed Avalanche Hazard - Sat 05/02/2011

Observed Weather Influences

There have been light snow showers on moderate to strong Westerly winds. The freezing level was at around 800 metres.

Observed Snow Stability and Avalanche Hazard

Yesterdays storm snow is stabilising in the cooler temperatures leaving isolated instabilities in areas of steep terrain. New accumulations of moderately bonded windslab have developed on North through East to South aspects above 950 metres. Elsewhere the snowpack is wind scoured firm and stable. The avalanche hazard is Moderate.

Mountain Conditions

Observed Mountain Travel Conditions

Largest areas of snow down to 750m. Ridges mostly bare, plateau complete.

Comments

Snowfall expected to arrive during the afternoon.