# Northern Cairngorms - Issued 15/12/2017

## Avalanche Hazard Forecast - FOR PERIOD 18:00HRS Fri 15/12/2017 TO 18:00HRS Sat 16/12/2017



Hazard Level	Avalanche Probabilty
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**

Light snowfall above 400 metres is expected to clear overnight to leave a dry day. Moderate to strong North-West winds will gradually ease and back to the West by the end of the day. The freezing level will be around 500 metres.

### Forecast Snow Stability and Avalanche Hazard

Drifting at higher levels with moderately bonded windslab continuing to develop mainly on steep sheltered North-East through East to Southerly aspects above 900 metres. Some isolated instabilities possible on other steep areas; however stability will be mostly good. The avalanche hazard will be Moderate.

## Observed Avalanche Hazard - Fri 15/12/2017

### **Observed Weather Influences**

A cold day with moderate North-West winds and occasional snow showers. The freezing level was around 600 metres.

### **Observed Snow Stability and Avalanche Hazard**

There is a covering of snow on all aspects and at all altitudes. Drifting is taking place at higher levels and moderately bonded windslab continues to develop on lee slopes. Areas most affected are on Easterly to Southerly aspects above 900 metres. Elsewhere in general stability is mainly good. The avalanche hazard is Moderate.

### **Mountain Conditions**

Observed Mountain Travel Conditions

Deep snow above 600m - very hard going on foot. Knee to thigh deep in places! Whiteout conditions with poor visibility above 700m. Winds 20 -30 mph at higher levels progress difficult at times with stronger gusts.

Comments

Very poor visibility, snow shoes a preferable mode of travel today.