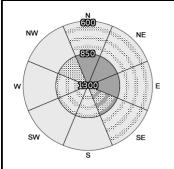
Northern Cairngorms - Issued 16/01/2018

Avalanche Hazard Forecast - FOR PERIOD 18:00HRS Tue 16/01/2018 TO 18:00HRS Wed 17/01/2018



| 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

Remaining very cold with snow showers continuing through the forecast period. Moderate South-Westerly winds will veer to the West and increase to strong during the day. The freezing level will slowly rise to 400 metres.

Forecast Snow Stability and Avalanche Hazard

Moderate to weakly bonded windslab will continue to develop on North through East to South-East facing slopes above 900 metres. Areas especially affected will be around coire rims, steep convexities, gully tops, flanks and crag aprons. Fragile cornices will also develop on these aspects. More localised windslab in other areas due to cross loading. Localised windslab will form on steep sheltered banks below 850 metres. The avalanche hazard will be Considerable.

Observed Avalanche Hazard - Tue 16/01/2018

Observed Weather Influences

A very cold day with heavy snow showers at all levels on moderate to strong Westerly winds.

Observed Snow Stability and Avalanche Hazard

Accumulations of moderate to weakly bonded windslab has developed on Northerly to Easterly aspects mainly above 950 metres. Areas most affected are around coire rims, crag aprons and gully tops, also steep convexities. Fragile cornices have developed on these aspects. Cross loading has affected other areas. South to West aspects and exposed ridges are mostly scoured, with some localised windslab in lee areas such as shallow gullies and hollows. The avalanche hazard is Considerable.

Mountain Conditions

| Observed M | ountain | Travel |
|------------|---------|--------|
| Conditions | | |

Deep snow drifts developing mostly above 700m this combined with breakable crust makes it hard going underfoot. Whiteout conditions with poor visibility during heavy snow showers. Winds 20 -30 mph progress difficult at times with stronger gusts

Comments

Looking very wintry for the rest of the week