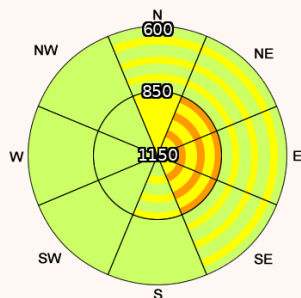


Southern Cairngorms - Issued 30/01/2018

Avalanche Hazard Forecast - FOR PERIOD 18:00HRS Tue 30/01/2018 TO 18:00HRS Wed 31/01/2018



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

Snowfall, heaviest overnight above 600 metres, easing slightly during the day but falling down to lower levels as the freezing levels drops. Winds will be very strong and variable. Initially from the South-West overnight but veering to become Westerly during the afternoon.

Forecast Snow Stability and Avalanche Hazard

Localised accumulations of new unstable windslab will develop in sheltered locations mainly on North-East to South-East aspects above 850 metres with North and South aspects also affected by cross-loading. Corrie rims, gully exits and steeper convex features will be most affected. Pockets of windslab may also develop at lower levels in sheltered steep terrain. New unstable cornices will also start to develop. The avalanche hazard will be Considerable.

Observed Avalanche Hazard - Tue 30/01/2018

Observed Weather Influences

The freezing level is around 900 metres with light new snowfall above 800 metres. Strong winds were mainly from the West-South-West, occasionally South-West.

Observed Snow Stability and Avalanche Hazard

There is patchy snow cover above around 600 metres with coverage improving with altitude. The majority of the snowpack is generally very firm, well bonded and stable. New softer accumulations are developing in sheltered locations mainly on North through East to South-East aspects above 900 metres but these are not extensive in distribution and generally avoidable. The avalanche hazard is Low.

Mountain Conditions

Observed Mountain Travel Conditions

Firm snow - ice on most aspects. Very hard snow ice on exposed windward slopes. Clear in the morning with poor visibility in clouds and snow afternoon. Winds approx 40 - 50 mph making progress very difficult and strenuous.

Comments

New snowfall likely over the next few days.