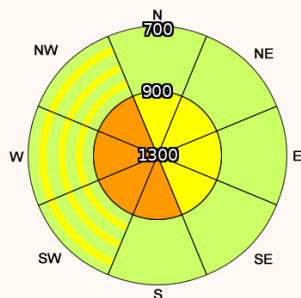


Northern Cairngorms - Issued 04/04/2018

Avalanche Hazard Forecast - FOR PERIOD 18:00HRS Wed 04/04/2018 TO 18:00HRS Thu 05/04/2018



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

Precipitation will die out this evening and overnight, during the day it will be mostly dry with the odd snow shower possible. Winds will be mostly strong Northerly backing Westerly, lessening during the afternoon. The freezing level at 400m overnight will gradually rise to 700m by the end of the forecast period.

Forecast Snow Stability and Avalanche Hazard

Unstable and widespread windslab will persist on Southerly to North-Westerly aspects, Large collapse prone cornices will also threaten here. Additionally, redistributed snow will build new moderately stable windslab on North-East to South-Easterly aspects above 900m. Steep places; Coire rims, gully tops, crag aprons and convexities will be especially affected. Localised moderately stable windslab will develop on steep wind sheltered places below 900m. The avalanche hazard will be Considerable

Observed Avalanche Hazard - Wed 04/04/2018

Observed Weather Influences

A day of very poor visibility, continual snowfall and strengthening Northerly winds through the afternoon, and drifting snow at higher levels. A cold day with summit temperatures of -6 degrees centigrade.

Observed Snow Stability and Avalanche Hazard

Widespread, deep soft windslab continues to build on mainly South-West to North-Westerly aspects above 900m with new deposits forming on Southerly aspects. Accumulations are mostly moderately well bonded; but are poorly bonded in steep places above 1000m, especially in the firmer windslab on steep convex terrain, coire rims, and gully exits. Large unstable cornices also threaten here. Below 900m, stability is generally good except for sheltered steep places. The avalanche hazard is Considerable

Mountain Conditions

Observed Mountain Travel Conditions

Deep snow at all altitudes - very hard going on foot. Knee deep at 600m!. Whiteout conditions with poor visibility at all levels. Winds 20-30 mph on the tops increasing.

Comments

Precipitation eases but winds strengthening and changing direction and redistributing soft snow.