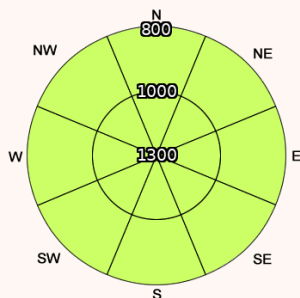


Northern Cairngorms - Issued 02/01/2020

Avalanche Hazard Forecast - FOR PERIOD 18:00HRS Thu 02/01/2020 TO 18:00HRS Fri 03/01/2020



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

Rain will turn to snowfall for a few hours during the night. Dry through the morning with further snow showers through the afternoon. Winds will be strong, initially North-Westerly veering Westerly. The freezing level will fall to 500 metres overnight then rise to 800 metres towards the end of the day.

Forecast Snow Stability and Avalanche Hazard

The limited old snowpack will remain stable, very firm and icy in all areas. Greatest amounts are present mostly on North to Easterly aspects above 900 metres. Where the old snowpack remains isolated accumulations of windslab will develop on North-East to South-East aspects above 900 metres. These will be limited in extent and generally avoidable. The avalanche hazard will be Low.

Observed Avalanche Hazard - Thu 02/01/2020

Observed Weather Influences

Rain at all levels on storm force South-Westerly winds. The freezing level lowered to around summit levels during the morning.

Observed Snow Stability and Avalanche Hazard

There is little change in the snowpack stability which remains firm and stable throughout. Greatest amounts are to be found mostly on North to Easterly aspects above 900 metres around corrie rims and back walls. The avalanche hazard is Low.

Mountain Conditions

Observed Mountain Travel Conditions

Firm snow - ice around coire rims and back walls. Cloudy on the tops with some bright spells. Winds approx 70 mph and above, serious and challenging conditions.

Comments

A limited firm icy snowpack, winds easing to strong on Friday.