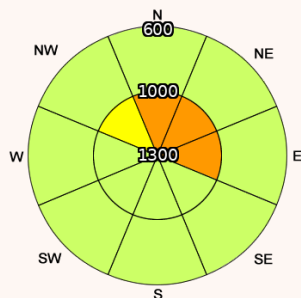


# Northern Cairngorms - Issued 15/01/2020

## Avalanche Hazard Forecast - FOR PERIOD 18:00HRS Wed 15/01/2020 TO 18:00HRS Thu 16/01/2020



Hazard Level	Avalanche Probability
<b>Very High</b>	Natural and human triggered avalanches will occur. Numerous very large, often extremely large natural avalanches can be expected.
<b>High</b>	Natural and human triggered avalanches will occur. In some cases, numerous large, often very large sized natural avalanches can be expected.
<b>Considerable</b>	Natural and human triggered avalanches possible, in some cases large, in isolated cases very large sized natural avalanches are possible.
<b>Moderate</b>	Very large sized natural avalanches are unlikely. Human triggering possible in indicated steep places.
<b>Low</b>	Only small and medium sized natural avalanches are possible. Human triggering possible in steep, extreme terrain.

### Forecast Weather Influences

Winds will be gale force West- South-Westerly overnight backing to Southerly by morning, then South-South-Easterly for the rest of the forecast period. Freezing level around 800 metres overnight then at summit levels and to 1400m during the day. Precipitation overnight and during the day will fall as snow above 600m then sleet and snow above 900 metres in the day.

### Forecast Snow Stability and Avalanche Hazard

Windslab accumulations that are present on steep Northerly to Easterly aspects mostly above 1000m, will become more unstable as the day progresses with avalanches likely, steep wind sheltered coire back walls, ridge flanks and gully exits will be most affected. New windslab building on N to E aspects above 1000m will be generally stable. Elsewhere, snowpack stability will be good or terrain wind scoured. Cornices will be weak and liable to collapse. The avalanche hazard will be Considerable

## Observed Avalanche Hazard - Wed 15/01/2020

### Observed Weather Influences

Storm force South-Westerly winds persisted throughout the day. No precipitation until after midday, falling as snow mostly above 700m.

### Observed Snow Stability and Avalanche Hazard

Deep unstable windslab has continued to accumulate into specific steep wind sheltered locations mostly above 1000m on North to East aspects. Ridge flanks, coire back walls and crag aprons especially affected. Elsewhere windward slopes are scoured and mostly bare. Below 900 metres snow accumulations are mostly in wind sheltered places, hollows and banks where stability is good. The avalanche hazard is Considerable

### Mountain Conditions

#### Observed Mountain Travel Conditions

Wind scoured and bare on windward aspects, deep locally. Bright spell in the morning with poor visibility in clouds and snow afternoon. Winds approx 75 mph and above, serious and challenging conditions.

#### Comments

Wind lessening a bit, snow above 1000-1100m -