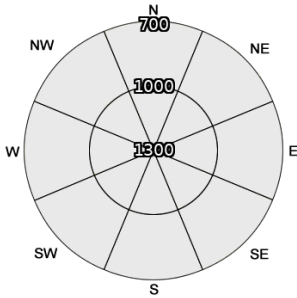


Northern Cairngorms - Issued 25/01/2020

Avalanche Hazard Forecast - FOR PERIOD 18:00HRS Sat 25/01/2020 TO 18:00HRS Sun 26/01/2020



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

Snow initially above 1000 metres during the early morning, lowering to 600 metres through the day and becoming lighter before petering out by mid afternoon. Strong to gale force Southerly winds will ease to moderate during the morning and veer to the West-South-West. The freezing level will steadily fall to 500 metres by the end of the day

Forecast Snow Stability and Avalanche Hazard

The old snowpack will remain firm well bonded and stable, with greatest amounts on Northerly to Easterly aspects above 950 metres. New accumulations of unstable windslab will develop on North-West through North to Easterly aspects above 950 metres. Areas most affected will be around corrie rims and gully tops. These accumulations are expected to be limited in extent and generally avoidable. Fragile cornices will begin to develop on these aspects. The avalanche hazard will be Low.

Observed Avalanche Hazard - Sat 25/01/2020

Observed Weather Influences

A dry day with strong Westerly winds. The freezing level fluctuated around the summits.

Observed Snow Stability and Avalanche Hazard

The limited snowpack is well bonded and stable throughout. Greatest amounts are on Northerly to Easterly aspects above 950 metres, mainly around corrie rims and back walls. Elsewhere the ground is generally clear of snow with patchy areas remaining on the plateau and in shallow gullies. The avalanche hazard is Low.

Mountain Conditions

Observed Mountain Travel Conditions

Diminishing snowpack, patchy snowfields on the plateau. Cloudy on the tops with some bright spells. Winds approx 50 gusting 70 mph over the highest summits, progress very difficult.

Comments

Winter is returning