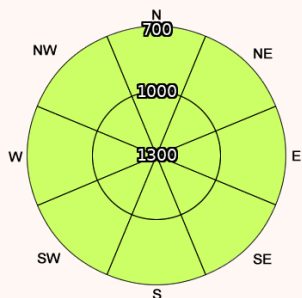


Northern Cairngorms - Issued 26/01/2020

Avalanche Hazard Forecast - FOR PERIOD 18:00HRS Sun 26/01/2020 TO 18:00HRS Mon 27/01/2020



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

Cold with outbreaks of snow during the night, this will turn more showery through the day and peter out by late afternoon. Winds will be mostly South-South-Westerly in direction and increase from moderate to strong overnight, continuing strong through the day. The freezing level will be around 500 metres.

Forecast Snow Stability and Avalanche Hazard

The old snowpack will be frozen hard and stable. New windslab will develop on Northerly to Easterly aspects above 950 metres. Deeper accumulations will be unstable but in general these areas will be mainly shallow, isolated and avoidable. Wind sheltered coire rims, ridge crests and gully exits will be most affected. The avalanche hazard will be Low.

Observed Avalanche Hazard - Sun 26/01/2020

Observed Weather Influences

Light snow showers on moderate Westerly winds. The freezing level fell to 900 metres by midday.

Observed Snow Stability and Avalanche Hazard

There is a dusting of new snow above 700 metres. Isolated pockets of shallow well bonded windslab have developed mostly around corrie rims and gully tops on Northerly to Easterly aspects above 1000 metres. The old snowpack on Northerly to Easterly aspects above 950 metres is firm well bonded and stable. The avalanche hazard is Low.

Mountain Conditions

Observed Mountain Travel Conditions

Limited firm snow - ice on N to E aspects above 950m. Clear at times with poor visibility in clouds and snow. Winds 30-40 mph over the summits; here progress difficult and tiring, blowing us over on occasions.

Comments

Old snowpack will become very firm and icy with serious run-out potential onto boulder fields below.