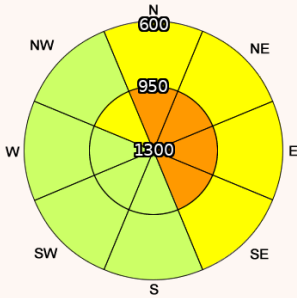


# Northern Cairngorms - Issued 09/02/2020

## Avalanche Hazard Forecast - FOR PERIOD 18:00HRS Sun 09/02/2020 TO 18:00HRS Mon 10/02/2020



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 continue severe gale, West to West-South-Westerly throughout the forecast period. Light snowfall overnight will become more persistent and heavy during the day lying above 100m or so. Significant continual drifting will take place at all levels throughout the period.

### Forecast Snow Stability and Avalanche Hazard

The old snowpack will refreeze and become firm, crusty and stable, with many areas scoured and icy also. New deposits of weakly bonded windslab will build on N through E to S-E aspects mostly above 950m with some isolated deposits at lower levels in banks and hollows. Deepest and most widespread accumulations will be present in steep wind sheltered gully exits, crag aprons and coire back walls. Unstable cornices also present above same aspects. The avalanche hazard will be Considerable

## Observed Avalanche Hazard - Sun 09/02/2020

### Observed Weather Influences

A day of continuing severe gale to storm force West or South-Westerly winds. Precipitation falling as snow at first then rain to summits then sleet and snow as the freezing level gradually lowered from midday.

### Observed Snow Stability and Avalanche Hazard

During the day the snowpack has become moist at all levels and some consolidation of the deep windslab has taken place. Moderately stable deep deposits lie mostly on North-West through North to North-East aspects above 1000m. A cornice triggered medium sized slab avalanche was noted on a NE aspect at 1100m. Unstable cornices overhang NW, N to E aspects. At lower elevations the snowpack is saturated and stability is generally good. The avalanche hazard is Moderate

### Mountain Conditions

#### Observed Mountain Travel Conditions

Wind scoured and bare on many aspects, deep and soft in lee slopes. Moderate visibility in the morning with poor visibility in clouds and snow. Winds approx 75 mph and above, serious and challenging conditions.

#### Comments

Challenging and serious winter conditions in prospect for the next days.