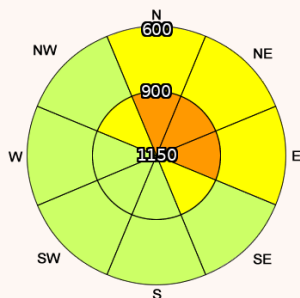


Southern Cairngorms - Issued 09/02/2020

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



Hazard Level	Avalanche Probability
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

Light snow showers overnight, slightly heavier from mid-morning onwards. The freezing level will lower to around 450 metres. Very strong Westerly winds throughout the period.

Forecast Snow Stability and Avalanche Hazard

Snowfall and heavy drifting will form windslab on mainly North-East to South-East aspects but with cross loading also affecting North aspects. Accumulations will start to develop down to increasingly lower levels and fragile cornices will rapidly form. In wind sheltered locations above 900 metres on North to East aspects moderate to poorly bonded windslab will be present. Areas exposed to the severe winds will be scoured and stable. The avalanche hazard will be Considerable.

Observed Avalanche Hazard - Sun 09/02/2020

Observed Weather Influences

Snow showers on storm force South-Westerly winds. The freezing level rose to around 1200 metres. Plus two degrees centigrade at 930 metres at midday.

Observed Snow Stability and Avalanche Hazard

Deep accumulations of windslab have formed in only the most wind sheltered locations on North-West through North to East aspects above 900 metres. Steep burn lines, gully tops and corrie rims are most affected with moderately bonded deposits present. Fragile cornices have developed above these locations. Elsewhere there is superficial or no cover. The avalanche hazard is Moderate.

Mountain Conditions

Observed Mountain Travel Conditions

Deep snow in very wind sheltered locations only above 900m. Cloud base around 1000m. Winds approx 40 - 50 mph making progress very difficult and strenuous.

Comments

Difficult mountain conditions expected on Monday. Extremely careful route choice required.