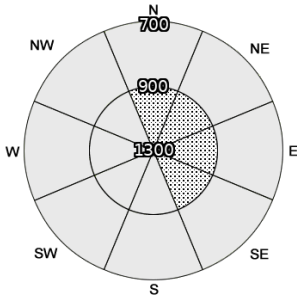


Northern Cairngorms - Issued 11/03/2020

Avalanche Hazard Forecast - FOR PERIOD 18:00HRS Wed 11/03/2020 TO 18:00HRS Thu 12/03/2020



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

Winds remaining strong South-West to Westerly overnight and during the morning before lessening in strength to light West-North-Westerly by mid afternoon. Snow showers heavier through the night, lighter through the day, although there is low confidence in frequency and intensity. Snow lying at glen levels overnight then above 500m by the end of the forecast period.

Forecast Snow Stability and Avalanche Hazard

The old snowpack will be firm and stable throughout with windward slopes also firm, scoured or icy. Accumulations of unstable windslab will continue to deepen on mainly N through E to SE aspects. Shallow and avoidable accumulations at lower elevations becoming deeper and more significant as unstable windslab develops at higher elevations above 900m, most affected will be steep, wind sheltered places such as coire rims, gully exits and ridge flanks. The avalanche hazard will be Moderate

Observed Avalanche Hazard - Wed 11/03/2020

Observed Weather Influences

Progressively getting colder through the day with summit temperatures of - 5 deg C by mid afternoon. Feeling colder in the very strong South-West to Westerly winds, sometimes storm force on the tops. Light snow showers for most of the day becoming heavier and persistent during the afternoon at times.

Observed Snow Stability and Avalanche Hazard

The old snowpack has refrozen and is firm and stable throughout with windward slopes also firm, scoured or icy. New accumulations of windslab are gradually building in wind sheltered places and slowly gaining depth on mainly N through E to SE aspects above 1000m. Mostly shallow and avoidable accumulations have developed at lower elevations but areas being most affected are steep, wind sheltered places such as coire rims, gully exits and ridge flanks. The avalanche hazard is Moderate

Mountain Conditions

Observed Mountain Travel Conditions

Firm snow - ice on most aspects with areas of soft windblown. Clear spells with poor visibility in clouds and snow. Winds approx 75 mph and above on the tops at times, challenging conditions.

Comments

Remaining cold with snow showers persisting. Old snowpack firm and icy with serious run-outs for

slides and falls.