

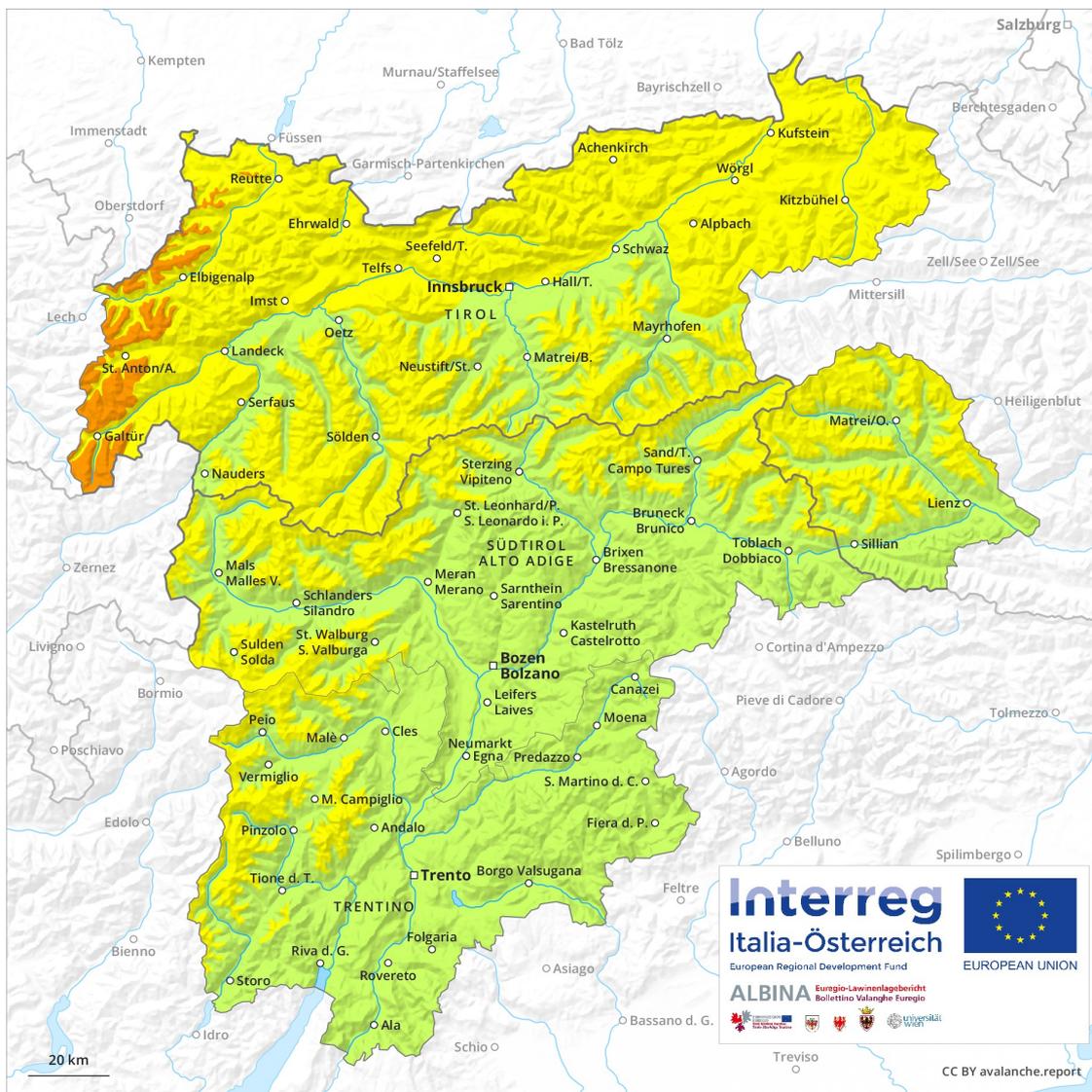
Avalanche Forecast

Saturday 22 12 2018

Published 21 12 2018, 17:00



Avalanche.report



Danger Level 3 - Considerable



Tendency: Increasing avalanche danger
on Sunday 23 12 2018



Wind-drifted
snow



Treeline



Gliding snow



2200m

As a consequence of fresh snow and strong wind there will be an increase in the danger of dry avalanches.

In the afternoon as a consequence of the storm force southwesterly wind there will be an appreciable increase in the avalanche danger. Avalanche prone wind slabs will form. This applies in all aspects especially above approximately 2200 m. On steep slopes the dry avalanches can be released easily and reach medium size in some cases. The number and size of avalanche prone locations will increase with altitude. Also places where surface hoar has been covered with snow are critical, in particular in shady places that are protected from the wind. As a consequence of the rain, the likelihood of gliding avalanches and moist snow slides being released will increase below approximately 2200 m. Areas with glide cracks are to be avoided as far as possible.

Snowpack

Danger patterns

dp 6: cold, loose snow and wind

dp 2: gliding snow

10 to 30 cm of snow. will fall above approximately 2200 m, in particular along the border with Vorarlberg. The snowpack will be subject to considerable local variations. The fresh snow and wind slabs will be deposited on soft layers above approximately 2200 m. In the afternoon the wind slabs will increase in size appreciably. The fresh wind slabs are in isolated cases quite large and prone to triggering. In some places fresh snow and wind slabs are lying on surface hoar. No distinct weak layers exist in the bottom section of the snowpack.

Tendency

Further increase in avalanche danger as a consequence of fresh snow and strong wind.

Danger Level 2 - Moderate



Tendency: Increasing avalanche danger
 on Sunday 23 12 2018



Wind-drifted snow



Treeline



Persistent weak layer



2800m
1300m

Fresh wind slabs require caution. Weakly bonded old snow requires caution.

As a consequence of fresh snow and a strong wind from southwesterly directions, avalanche prone wind slabs will form as the day progresses in all aspects. The fresh wind slabs can be released, even by a single winter sport participant and reach medium size. The number and size of avalanche prone locations will increase at high altitude and in the high Alpine regions. These avalanche prone locations are barely recognisable because of the poor visibility. Weak layers in the lower part of the snowpack can be released in some places by winter sport participants on steep west, north and east facing slopes, in particular between approximately 2200 and 2800 m. This applies especially in areas where the snow cover is rather shallow. Defensive route selection is recommended.

Snowpack

Danger patterns

dp 6: cold, loose snow and wind

dp 1: deep persistent weak layer

Some snow will fall. The snowpack will be in some cases prone to triggering. The brittle wind slabs can be released easily. or in isolated cases naturally, in all aspects above the tree line. Shady slopes where surface hoar has been covered with snow are especially unfavourable. Faceted weak layers exist in the old snowpack on steep west, north and east facing slopes, in particular above approximately 2200 m and below approximately 2800 m. Isolated whumpfung sounds serve as an alarm indicating the danger. As a consequence of warming, the likelihood of moist loose snow avalanches being released will increase below the tree line.

Tendency

Further increase in danger of dry avalanches as a consequence of fresh snow and strong wind.

Danger Level 2 - Moderate



Tendency: Increasing avalanche danger
on Sunday 23 12 2018



Wind-drifted
snow



Treeline



Gliding snow



2200m

As a consequence of fresh snow and strong wind there will be an increase in the danger of dry avalanches.

In the afternoon as a consequence of the storm force southwesterly wind there will be an appreciable increase in the avalanche danger. Avalanche prone wind slabs will form. This applies in all aspects especially above approximately 2200 m. On steep slopes the dry avalanches can be released easily and reach medium size in some cases. The number and size of avalanche prone locations will increase with altitude. Also places where surface hoar has been covered with snow are critical, in particular in shady places that are protected from the wind. As a consequence of the rain, the likelihood of gliding avalanches and moist snow slides being released will increase below approximately 2200 m. Areas with glide cracks are to be avoided as far as possible.

Snowpack

Danger patterns

dp 6: cold, loose snow and wind

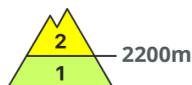
dp 2: gliding snow

10 to 30 cm of snow. will fall above approximately 2200 m, in particular along the border with Vorarlberg. The snowpack will be subject to considerable local variations. The fresh snow and wind slabs will be deposited on soft layers above approximately 2200 m. In the afternoon the wind slabs will increase in size appreciably. The fresh wind slabs are in isolated cases quite large and prone to triggering. In some places fresh snow and wind slabs are lying on surface hoar. No distinct weak layers exist in the bottom section of the snowpack.

Tendency

Further increase in avalanche danger as a consequence of fresh snow and strong wind.

Danger Level 2 - Moderate



Tendency: Constant avalanche danger →
on Sunday 23 12 2018



Wind-drifted
snow



Persistent
weak layer



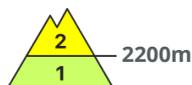
The sometimes storm force wind will transport the loosely bonded old snow.

The fresh wind slabs will be deposited on the unfavourable surface of an old snowpack. They can sometimes be released, even by a single winter sport participant. Mostly small natural avalanches are possible in very isolated cases. Faceted weak layers exist in the old snowpack in particular above approximately 2400 m. Weak layers in the old snowpack can be released in isolated cases by winter sport participants on steep, rather lightly snow-covered west, north and east facing slopes.

Snowpack

The wind will be strong to storm force. Whumpfung sounds and the formation of shooting cracks when stepping on the snowpack are a clear indication of a weakly bonded snowpack. Below approximately 2000 m thus far only a little snow is lying.

Danger Level 2 - Moderate



Tendency: Constant avalanche danger →
on Sunday 23 12 2018



Wind-drifted
snow



Persistent
weak layer



The danger exists in particular in alpine snow sports terrain. Fresh and somewhat older wind slabs are in many cases shallow but can only be released by large loads in most cases.

The mostly shallow wind slabs represent the main danger. They are to be found in particular adjacent to ridgelines in all aspects and in the high Alpine regions. Avalanches can be released, in particular by large loads and reach medium size. The avalanche prone locations are to be found especially on steep shady slopes above approximately 2200 m, and adjacent to ridgelines and in gullies and bowls in all aspects. Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger and careful route selection.

Snowpack

The wind has transported the fresh snow significantly. The snowpack remains subject to considerable local variations in particular on wind-loaded slopes. Faceted weak layers exist in the snowpack in particular on rather lightly snow-covered shady slopes.

Tendency

The backcountry touring conditions remain quite favourable. In some localities increase in danger as a consequence of warming during the day.

Danger Level 2 - Moderate



Tendency: Constant avalanche danger →
 on Sunday 23 12 2018



Wind-drifted
 snow



Treeline



Persistent
 weak layer



2400m

The sometimes storm force wind will transport the fresh and old snow significantly.

The fresh wind slabs will be deposited on the unfavourable surface of an old snowpack in all aspects. They can sometimes be released, even by a single winter sport participant. Mostly small natural avalanches are possible especially on wind-loaded slopes. Faceted weak layers exist in the old snowpack in particular above approximately 2400 m. Weak layers in the old snowpack can be released in isolated cases by winter sport participants on steep, rather lightly snow-covered west, north and east facing slopes.

Snowpack

Along the border with Tirol light snowfall above approximately 1500 m. The wind will be strong to storm force. Whumpung sounds and the formation of shooting cracks when stepping on the snowpack are a clear indication of a weakly bonded snowpack.

Danger Level 1 - Low



Tendency: Constant avalanche danger →
 on Sunday 23 12 2018



Wind-drifted
 snow



Persistent
 weak layer



The sometimes storm force wind will transport the loosely bonded old snow.

The fresh wind slabs will be deposited on the unfavourable surface of an old snowpack. They can in very isolated cases be released, even by a single winter sport participant, but they will be small in most cases. Faceted weak layers exist in the old snowpack in particular above approximately 2400 m. Weak layers in the old snowpack can be released especially by large additional loads on steep, rather lightly snow-covered west, north and east facing slopes.

Snowpack

The wind will be strong to storm force. At low and intermediate altitudes hardly any snow is lying. The avalanche prone locations are to be found in particular on northeast to north to south facing wind-loaded slopes above approximately 2200 m. These places are rather rare and are easy to recognise.

Danger Level 1 - Low



Tendency: Constant avalanche danger →
on Sunday 23 12 2018



Wind-drifted
snow



Persistent
weak layer



The danger exists in particular in alpine snow sports terrain. Fresh and somewhat older wind slabs are mostly shallow but to be assessed with care and prudence.

The mostly shallow wind slabs represent the main danger. They are to be found in particular adjacent to ridgelines in all aspects and in the high Alpine regions. Avalanches can as before be released, in particular by large loads, but they will be small in most cases. Individual avalanche prone locations are to be found especially on steep shady slopes above approximately 2200 m, and adjacent to ridgelines and in gullies and bowls in all aspects. Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for meticulous route selection.

Snowpack

The wind has transported the fresh snow significantly. The snowpack remains prone to triggering in particular on wind-loaded slopes. Faceted weak layers exist deep in the old snowpack especially on rather lightly snow-covered shady slopes.

Tendency

The backcountry touring conditions remain mostly favourable. In some localities increase in danger as a consequence of warming during the day.

Danger Level 1 - Low



Tendency: Constant avalanche danger →
on Sunday 23 12 2018



Wind-drifted
snow



Favourable
situation



In all altitude zones only a little snow is lying.

The avalanche prone locations are sometimes covered with fresh snow but are clearly recognisable to the trained eye, in particular in gullies and bowls above approximately 2000 m and adjacent to ridgelines and in pass areas. Apart from the danger of being buried, restraint should be exercised in particular in view of the danger of avalanches sweeping people along and giving rise to falls.

Snowpack

In all altitude zones from a snow sport perspective, in most cases insufficient snow is lying. The snowpack will be generally stable.

Tendency

In some localities increase in danger as a consequence of warming during the day.

Danger Level 1 - Low



Tendency: Constant avalanche danger →
on Sunday 23 12 2018



Wind-drifted
snow



2400m

Only a little snow is lying.

Caution is to be exercised in particular adjacent to ridgelines and in gullies and bowls and on wind-loaded slopes. The avalanche prone locations are clearly recognisable to the trained eye. Apart from the danger of being buried, restraint should be exercised in particular in view of the danger of avalanches sweeping people along and giving rise to falls. There is a danger of falling on the hard snow surface.

Snowpack

The snowpack will be subject to considerable local variations. In all altitude zones from a snow sport perspective, in most cases insufficient snow is lying.