Avalanche Forecast

Wednesday 26 12 2018

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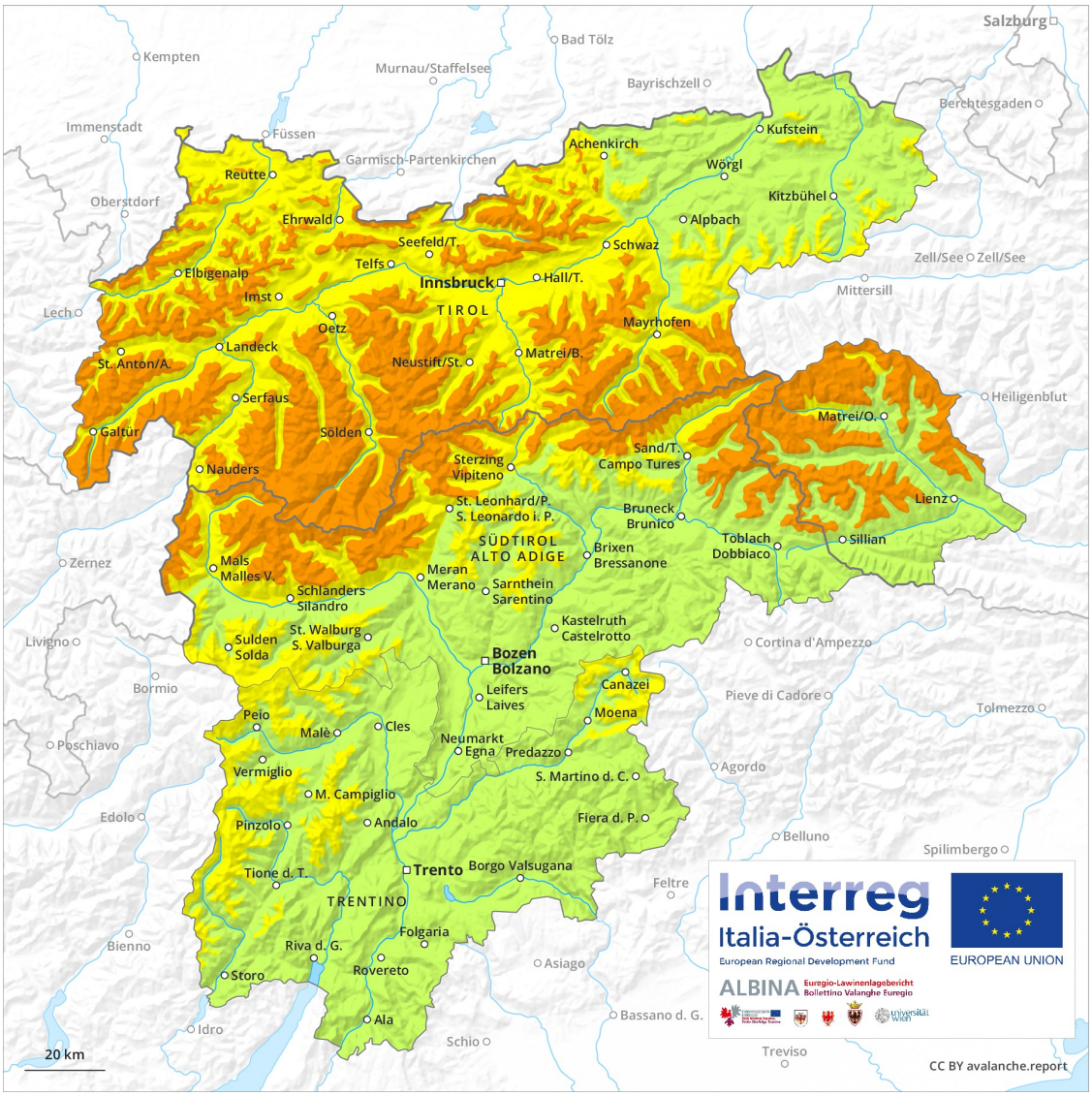
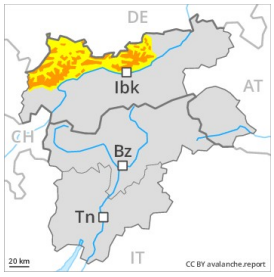
Avalanche.report



1	2	3	4	5
low	moderate	considerable	high	very high

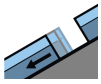
Danger Level 3 - Considerable



2000m

Tendency: Constant avalanche danger
on Thursday 27 12 2018

Wind-drifted snow



Gliding snow

Wind slabs require caution, especially above approximately 2000 m. Gliding avalanches and snow slides on grassy slopes. This applies in particular below approximately 2400 m.

The sometimes large wind slabs of the last three days represent the main danger. Single winter sport participants can release avalanches as before, including dangerously large ones. This applies especially in case of releases originating from very steep, high-altitude and leeward starting zones that have retained the snow thus far. The number and size of avalanche prone locations will increase with altitude. Caution is to be exercised in areas with glide cracks. This applies in particular on steep grassy slopes below approximately 2400 m. Snow sport activities outside marked and open pistes call for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger and careful route selection.

Snowpack

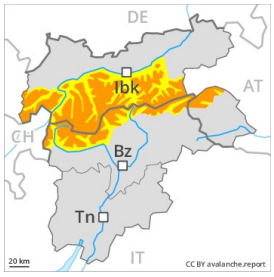
Danger patterns dp 6: cold, loose snow and wind | dp 2: gliding snow

By the evening the wind has been strong over a wide area. The fresh snow and wind slabs of the last few days are lying on soft layers above approximately 2000 m. Isolated avalanche prone weak layers exist in the centre of the snowpack, in particular between approximately 2200 and 2700 m.

Tendency

The avalanche danger will persist.

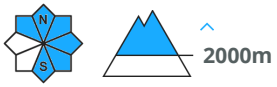
Danger Level 3 - Considerable



2000m

Tendency: Constant avalanche danger
on Thursday 27 12 2018

Wind-drifted snow



Persistent weak layer

Wind slabs require caution, especially above approximately 2000 m. Weakly bonded old snow at intermediate and high altitudes.

The sometimes large wind slabs of the last three days represent the main danger, especially above approximately 2000 m. Single winter sport participants can release avalanches as before, including dangerously large ones. This applies especially in case of releases originating from very steep, high-altitude and leeward starting zones that have retained the snow thus far. The number and size of avalanche prone locations will increase with altitude. Dry avalanches can additionally be released in the old snowpack by a single winter sport participant, in particular in areas where the snow cover is rather shallow between approximately 2200 and 2700 m and on very steep slopes. The avalanche prone locations are to be found in all aspects. Caution is to be exercised in areas with glide cracks. This applies in particular on steep grassy slopes below approximately 2400 m. Snow sport activities outside marked and open pistes call for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger and careful route selection. Slight increase in danger as a consequence of warming during the day and solar radiation.

Snowpack

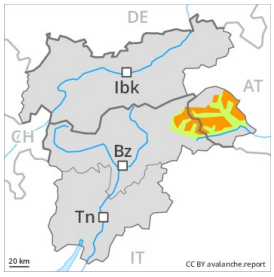
Danger patterns dp 6: cold, loose snow and wind | dp 5: snowfall after a long period of cold

By the evening the wind has been strong over a wide area. The fresh snow and wind slabs of the last few days are lying on soft layers above approximately 2000 m. Avalanche prone weak layers exist in the centre of the snowpack, in particular between approximately 2200 and 2700 m. The somewhat older wind slabs are bonding only slowly with the old snowpack in all aspects above approximately 2200 m.

Tendency

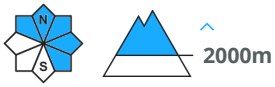
The avalanche danger will persist.

Danger Level 3 - Considerable



Tendency: Constant avalanche danger
on Thursday 27 12 2018

Wind-drifted snow



Persistent weak layer

Fresh wind slabs represent the main danger. Weakly bonded old snow above approximately 2200 m.

The wind slabs of the last few days are prone to triggering above approximately 2000 m. These represent the main danger. The number and size of avalanche prone locations will increase with altitude. In particular transitions from a shallow to a deep snowpack are unfavourable, especially on very steep shady slopes and adjacent to ridgelines.

Snowpack

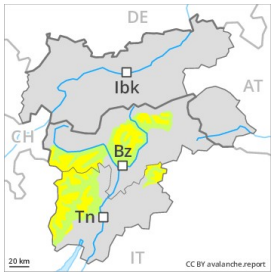
Danger patterns dp 6: cold, loose snow and wind | dp 5: snowfall after a long period of cold

Over a wide area fresh snow and wind slabs are lying on soft layers, in particular above approximately 2000 m. The fresh wind slabs are rather small and in some cases prone to triggering. These are clearly recognisable to the trained eye. Faceted weak layers exist in the centre of the snowpack in particular on west, north and east facing slopes, especially between approximately 2200 and 2700 m. Whumpfing and hissing sounds can indicate the danger.

Tendency

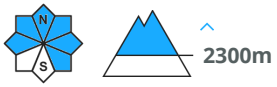
The avalanche danger will persist.

Danger Level 2 - Moderate



Tendency: Constant avalanche danger
on Thursday 27 12 2018

Wind-drifted snow



Persistent weak layer

The wind slabs represent the main danger.

As a consequence of fresh snow and a strong wind from northerly directions, wind slabs formed in particular adjacent to ridgelines and in gullies and bowls. In particular on wind-loaded slopes avalanches can be released easily and reach large size in isolated cases. In regions neighbouring those that are subject to danger level 3 (considerable) and in high Alpine regions avalanche prone locations are more prevalent and the danger is greater. The avalanche prone locations are clearly recognisable to the trained eye. Apart from the danger of being buried, restraint should be exercised as well in view of the danger of avalanches sweeping people along and giving rise to falls.

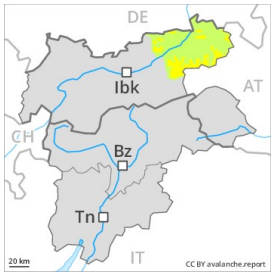
Snowpack

Some snow has fallen in particular in the north. The snowpack will be subject to considerable local variations. In many cases fresh snow and wind slabs are lying on the soft surface of an old snowpack. Whumpfing sounds and the formation of shooting cracks when stepping on the snowpack are a clear indication of a weakly bonded snowpack.

Tendency

Moderate, level 2.

Danger Level 2 - Moderate



Tendency: Constant avalanche danger
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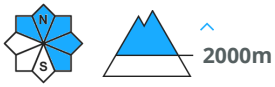
Wind-drifted snow



Fresh wind slabs require caution, in particular adjacent to ridgelines.

The fresh wind slabs represent the main danger, especially on very steep shady slopes and adjacent to ridgelines, in particular above approximately 2000 m. The number and size of avalanche prone locations will increase with altitude. At low and intermediate altitudes a low avalanche danger will be encountered over a wide area.

Snowpack

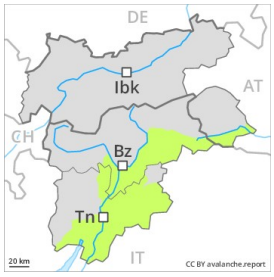
Danger patterns dp 6: cold, loose snow and wind

The fresh wind slabs of Tuesday represent the main danger. They are in some cases prone to triggering. In some places fresh snow and wind slabs are lying on soft layers, in particular above approximately 2000 m. The somewhat older wind slabs have bonded quite well with the old snowpack.

Tendency

The avalanche danger will persist.

Danger Level 1 - Low



Tendency: Constant avalanche danger
on Thursday 27 12 2018

Wind-drifted snow

2200m

Only a little snow is lying.

The wind slabs represent the main danger. The wind slabs are to be found in particular adjacent to ridgelines and in gullies and bowls as well as in the high Alpine regions. The avalanche prone locations are rather rare and are easy to recognise. Apart from the danger of being buried, restraint should be exercised as well in view of the danger of avalanches sweeping people along and giving rise to falls.

Snowpack

Danger patterns dp 6: cold, loose snow and wind

From a snow sport perspective, in most cases insufficient snow is lying. The sometimes strong wind has transported only a little snow.

Tendency

Low, level 1.