

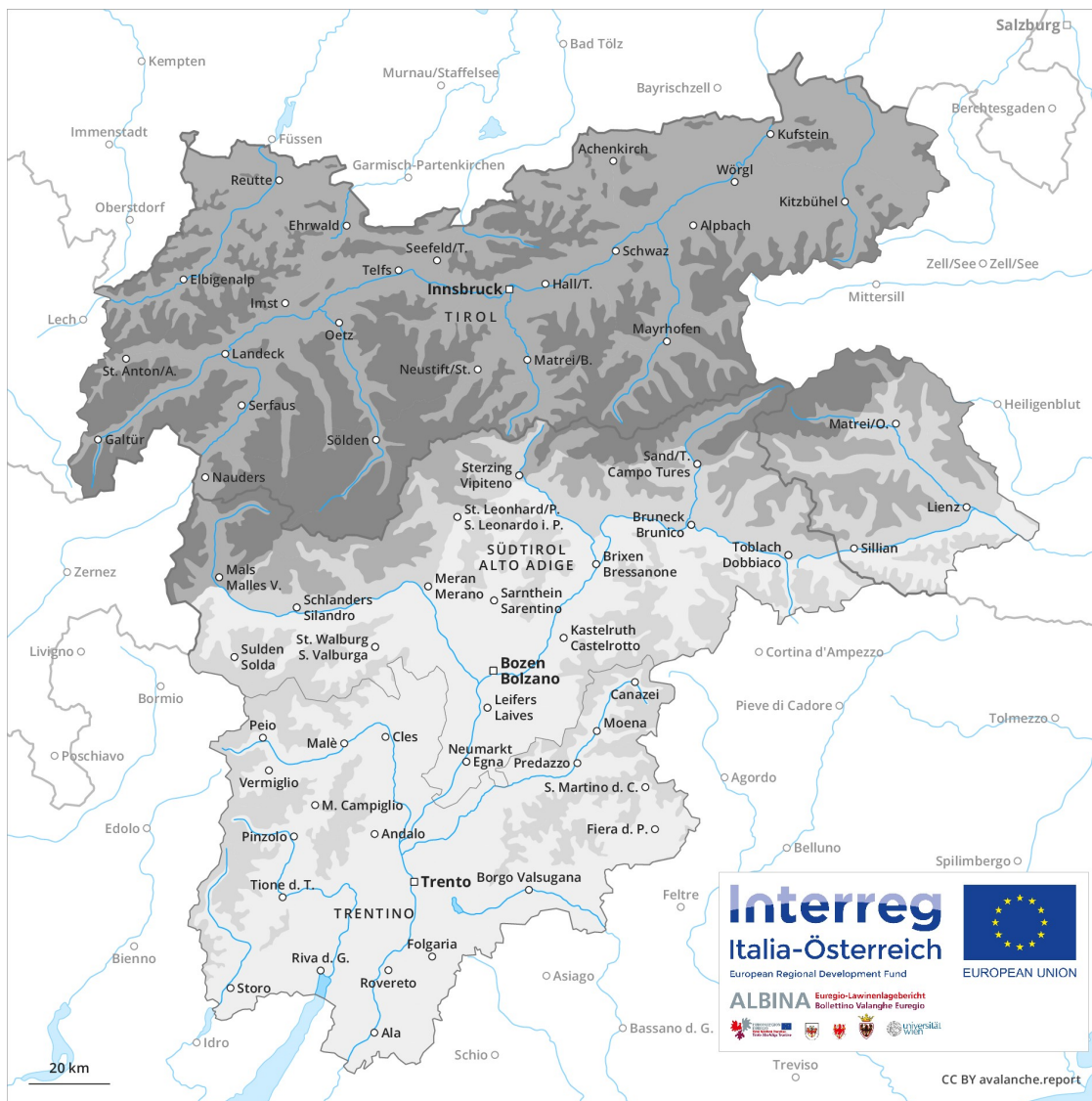
Avalanche Forecast

Monday 07 01 2019

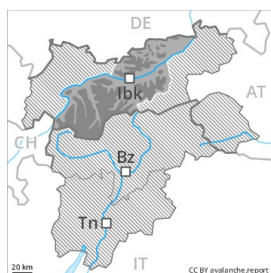
Published 06 01 2019, 17:00



Avalanche.report



Danger Level 4 - High



Tendency: Constant avalanche danger →
 on Tuesday 08 01 2019



Wind-drifted
 snow



Treeline



New snow



High avalanche danger will persist. Fresh snow and wind slabs represent the main danger.

As a consequence of fresh snow and wind the wind slabs will increase in size additionally. The fresh snow and wind slabs can be released very easily in all aspects and generally above the tree line. In addition numerous medium-sized to large natural avalanches are to be expected. Dry avalanches can in isolated cases release deeper layers of the snowpack and reach very large size in isolated cases. Avalanches can reach valley bottoms and in some places endanger exposed transportation routes. The conditions are dangerous for winter sport activities outside marked and open pistes. Below the tree line the situation is a little more favourable.

Snowpack

Danger patterns

dp 6: cold, loose snow and wind

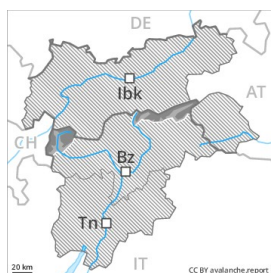
dp 1: deep persistent weak layer

In some regions over a wide area 15 to 30 cm of snow, and even more in some localities, fell. The wind was strong to storm force. The snowpack will be generally prone to triggering. Over a wide area fresh snow and wind slabs are lying on soft layers. The extensive wind slabs can be released easily or naturally in all aspects above the tree line. This also applies on steep slopes in areas close to the tree line. Isolated avalanche prone weak layers exist deeper in the snowpack in particular on very steep west, north and east facing slopes, especially in the Tuxer Alps, in the Northern Oetz and Stubai Alps and along the border with South Tyrol. Weak layers in the old snowpack can be released in isolated cases and mostly by large additional loads.

Tendency

Hardly any decrease in danger of dry avalanches as the snowfall eases. The snow sport conditions outside marked and open pistes remain very dangerous.

Danger Level 4 - High



Tendency: Decreasing avalanche danger
on Tuesday 08 01 2019



Wind-drifted
snow



The avalanche conditions remain critical.

Remotely triggered and natural avalanches are possible. In particular in the regions with a lot of snow only isolated medium-sized to large dry slab avalanches are possible in starting zones where no previous releases have taken place. With the end of the snowfall, the natural avalanche activity will gradually decrease. Exposed transportation routes can be endangered very occasionally. Mostly avalanches are shallow and can be released easily by a single winter sport participant. The avalanche prone locations are widespread and are barely recognisable because of the poor visibility. Ski touring and other off-piste activities, including snowshoe hiking, call for great caution and restraint.

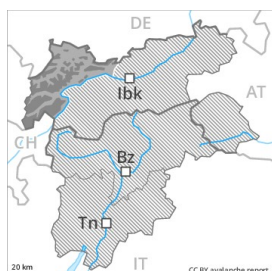
Snowpack

The sometimes large wind slabs of last week are lying on the unfavourable surface of an old snowpack. In particular in the Southern Zillertal Alps and High Tauern, in the Val Müstair Alps and in the Langtaufers they have increased in size substantially. For those venturing off piste a very precarious avalanche situation will prevail.

Tendency

The wind will be moderate to strong. Gradual decrease in avalanche danger as the precipitation eases.

Danger Level 4 - High



Tendency: Constant avalanche danger →
on Tuesday 08 01 2019



Fresh wind slabs are very prone to triggering in all aspects above the tree line. Avalanches can in some places be released in the old snowpack also.

As a consequence of fresh snow and a strong to storm force northwesterly wind, avalanche prone wind slabs formed in the last few days. Fresh snow and wind slabs can in many places be released by small loads and reach dangerously large size. Avalanche prone locations for dry avalanches are to be found in all aspects above the tree line. At elevated altitudes avalanche prone locations are more prevalent and the danger is greater. In addition in particular adjacent to ridgelines and in pass areas, medium-sized and, in isolated cases, large natural avalanches are to be expected. Weakly bonded old snow: Individual avalanche prone locations are to be found on very steep slopes above approximately 2200 m. On very steep west, north and east facing slopes the avalanche prone locations are more prevalent. Weak layers in the old snowpack can be released easily especially in areas where the snow cover is rather shallow, this applies even in case of a small load. Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for very extensive experience and great restraint. Below the tree line the situation is a little more favourable. The danger exists in particular in alpine snow sports terrain. Numerous medium-sized and large natural avalanches are to be expected. In isolated cases, however, very large avalanches capable of endangering exposed parts of transportation routes are also possible.

Snowpack

Danger patterns

dp 6: cold, loose snow and wind

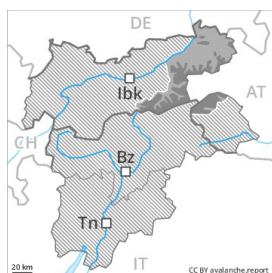
dp 1: deep persistent weak layer

Over a wide area 30 cm of snow, and even more in some localities, fell, in particular in the Lechtal Alps, in the Verwall Mountains and in the Allgäu Alps. The wind was strong to storm force. The fresh snow and wind slabs of the last few days will be deposited on soft layers. Extensive wind slabs formed. They are prone to triggering in all aspects. Individual weak layers exist in the old snowpack. This applies especially on very steep east, north and west facing slopes above approximately 2200 m.

Tendency

Hardly any decrease in avalanche danger as the snowfall eases. A few wet avalanches are to be expected.

Danger Level 4 - High



Tendency: Constant avalanche danger →
 on Tuesday 08 01 2019



Wind-drifted
 snow



Treeline



Wet snow



Treeline

As a consequence of fresh snow and wind a high avalanche danger will persist. Exposed transportation routes can be endangered.

As a consequence of fresh snow and wind the already large wind slabs will increase in size additionally. The fresh snow and wind slabs can be released easily or naturally in all aspects above the tree line. This also applies on steep slopes in areas close to the tree line. More medium-sized and large natural avalanches are to be expected. Especially in the Zillertal Alps and in the High Tauern the dry avalanches can penetrate even deep layers and reach very large size. Exposed transportation routes in particular can be endangered. The conditions are very dangerous for snow sport activities outside marked and open pistes. As a consequence of the rain, the likelihood of moist and wet avalanches being released will increase appreciably in all regions below the tree line.

Snowpack

Danger patterns

dp 6: cold, loose snow and wind

dp 3: rain

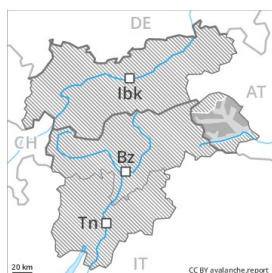
Over a wide area 30 cm of snow, and even more in some localities, will fall above approximately 1000 m. The wind will be strong to storm force. The snowpack will be generally prone to triggering. Over a wide area fresh snow and wind slabs are lying on soft layers. Much of the fresh and wind-drifted snow of the last few days can be released easily or naturally in all aspects above the tree line. This also applies in areas close to the tree line. Faceted weak layers exist deep in the old snowpack in particular in the Northern Zillertal Alps and in the High Tauern. On Monday the likelihood of moist and wet avalanches being released will increase appreciably in particular below the tree line.

Tendency

With the end of the intensive snowfall, the natural avalanche activity will not yet significantly decrease.



Danger Level 3 - Considerable



Tendency: Constant avalanche danger →
 on Tuesday 08 01 2019



Wind-drifted
 snow



Treeline



Persistent
 weak layer



2200m

Wind slabs and weakly bonded old snow require caution.

Fresh wind slabs: As a consequence of fresh snow and a strong wind from northerly directions, extensive wind slabs will form in particular in gullies and bowls and behind abrupt changes in the terrain. These can be released even by a single winter sport participant in all aspects, especially above the tree line as well as in areas close to the tree line. Avalanches can be triggered in the fresh snow and wind slab layers and reach medium size. At elevated altitudes and in the regions neighbouring those that are subject to danger level 4 (high) avalanche prone locations are more prevalent and the danger is greater.

Weakly bonded old snow: Weakly bonded old snow above approximately 2200 m. Avalanches can in some places be released, mostly by large loads and reach large size. The avalanche prone locations are to be found in particular on steep west to north to east facing slopes. Especially transitions from a shallow to a deep snowpack are unfavourable. Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for extensive experience in the assessment of avalanche danger and great restraint.

Snowpack

Danger patterns

dp 6: cold, loose snow and wind

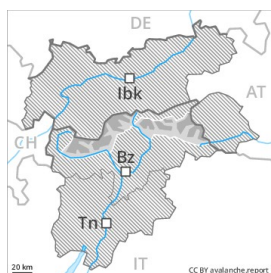
dp 1: deep persistent weak layer

Up to 10 cm of snow. will fall. The wind will be moderate to strong. The avalanche-prone wind slabs of the last few days are lying on soft layers. Even single winter sport participants can release avalanches easily. Faceted weak layers exist in the centre of the snowpack, in particular above approximately 2200 m.

Tendency

Above the tree line a considerable avalanche danger will persist in some regions.

Danger Level 3 - Considerable



Treeline

Tendency: Constant avalanche danger →

on Tuesday 08 01 2019



Wind-drifted
snow



Extensive experience in the assessment of avalanche danger is required.

As a consequence of the sometimes storm force wind the wind slabs will increase in size additionally as the day progresses. These can in many cases be released by small loads or triggered naturally. Especially on wind-loaded slopes medium-sized natural avalanches must be expected in isolated cases. The avalanche prone locations are to be found on steep slopes above approximately 2000 m. They are barely recognisable because of the poor visibility. The conditions are very dangerous for backcountry touring and other off-piste activities.

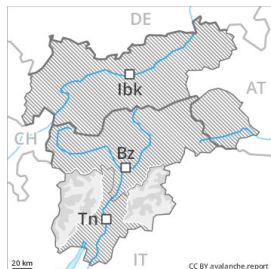
Snowpack

Especially along the border with Austria up to 10 cm of snow. will fall. The sometimes strong wind will transport the fresh snow. Over a wide area fresh snow and wind slabs are lying on soft layers. Isolated avalanche prone weak layers exist in the old snowpack. The snowpack will be weakly bonded over a wide area. Medium-sized and, in isolated cases, large dry slab avalanches are possible in particular adjacent to ridgelines and in gullies and bowls.

Tendency

The wind will be moderate. The fresh wind slabs are bonding only slowly with the old snowpack in particular on steep shady slopes.

Danger Level 2 - Moderate



Tendency: Constant avalanche danger →
on Tuesday 08 01 2019



Wind-drifted
snow



Persistent
weak layer



The wind slabs represent the main danger.

As a consequence of northerly wind, mostly small wind slabs formed in particular adjacent to ridgelines and in gullies and bowls as well as above approximately 2300 m. They are in many cases rather small but can only be released by large loads in most cases. At high altitudes and in high Alpine regions avalanche prone locations are more prevalent and the danger is greater. These 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

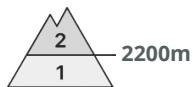
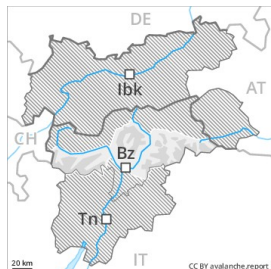
In steep terrain there is a danger of falling on the hard crust. Below approximately 2300 m a little snow is lying. The snowpack will be subject to considerable local variations above approximately 2500 m. The mostly small wind slabs must be evaluated with care and prudence in all aspects above approximately 2500 m. Isolated avalanche prone weak layers exist in the snowpack in particular on shady slopes.

Tendency

The avalanche danger will persist.



Danger Level 2 - Moderate



Tendency: Constant avalanche danger →
on Tuesday 08 01 2019



Wind-drifted
snow



Wind slabs require caution.

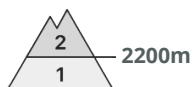
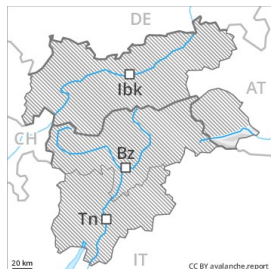
In all aspects the wind slabs have increased in size moderately in the last few days. These can in some places be released by small loads. The avalanche prone locations are to be found in gullies and bowls above approximately 2000 m, and adjacent to ridgelines in all aspects. Mostly the avalanches are only small but in many cases easily released.

Snowpack

The wind slabs have bonded insufficiently with the old snowpack. The near-surface layers of the snowpack necessitate caution. The snowpack will be subject to considerable local variations. In steep terrain there is a danger of falling on the hard snow surface.



Danger Level 2 - Moderate



Tendency: Constant avalanche danger →
on Tuesday 08 01 2019



Wind-drifted
snow



Treeline

Hardly any snow is lying.

The fresh wind slabs represent the main danger. These 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 rare and are easy to recognise. At high altitude avalanche prone locations are more prevalent. Restraint should be exercised because avalanches can sweep people along and give rise to falls.

Snowpack

Danger patterns

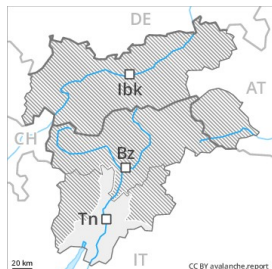
dp 6: cold, loose snow and wind

From a snow sport perspective, in most cases insufficient snow is lying.

Tendency

Fresh wind slabs represent the main danger.

Danger Level 1 - Low



Tendency: Constant avalanche danger →
on Tuesday 08 01 2019



Wind-drifted
snow



In all altitude zones a little snow is lying. Wind slabs require caution.

They are to be found in particular adjacent to ridgelines and in gullies and bowls as well as in the high Alpine regions. The wind slabs represent the main danger. They are rather rare and are easy to recognise. The avalanche prone locations are to be found in particular adjacent to ridgelines and in gullies and bowls in northwest to north to east facing aspects above approximately 2300 m. The mostly small wind slabs can be released by a single winter sport participant in isolated cases. Restraint should be exercised because avalanches can sweep people along and give rise to falls.

Snowpack

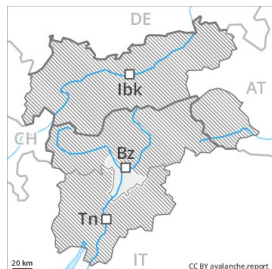
From a snow sport perspective, in most cases insufficient snow is lying below approximately 2300 m.

Tendency

The avalanche danger will persist.



Danger Level 1 - Low



Tendency: Constant avalanche danger →
on Tuesday 08 01 2019



Wind-drifted
snow



Only a little snow is lying.

The fresh and older wind slabs represent the main danger. They are to be found especially adjacent to ridgelines and in gullies and bowls and generally at high altitudes. These 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

The snowpack will be subject to considerable local variations above approximately 2300 m. Below approximately 2300 m from a snow sport perspective, in most cases insufficient snow is lying. The surface of the snowpack has frozen to form a strong crust. There is a danger of falling on the icy crust.

Tendency

Stormy weather.