Wednesday 16 01 2019

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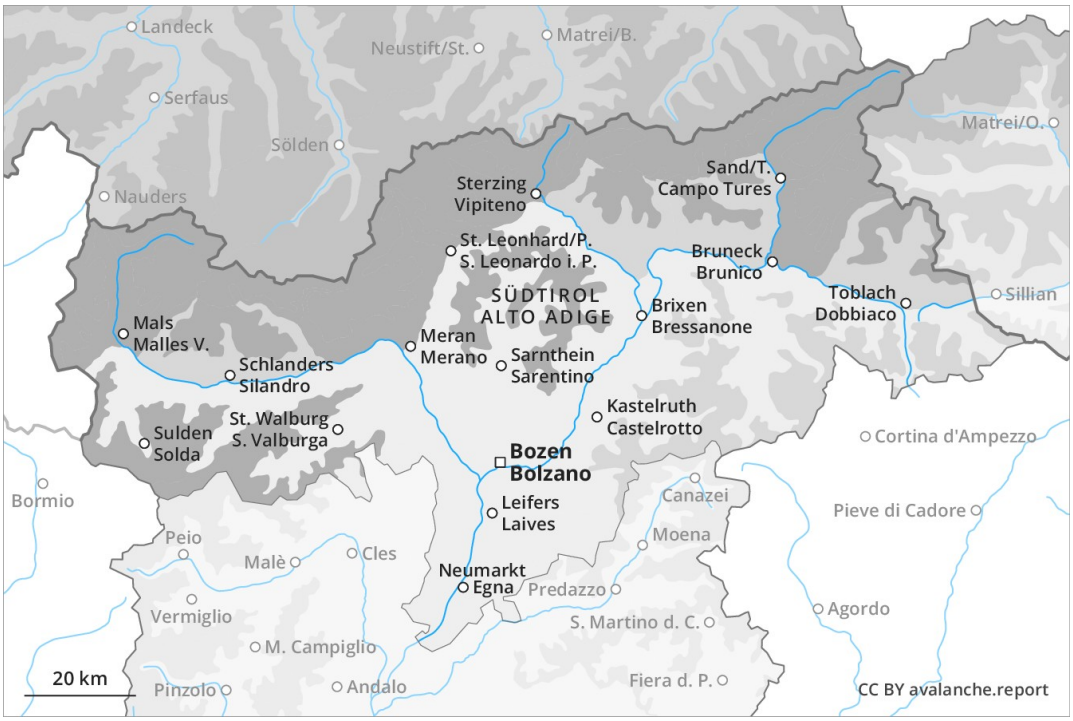
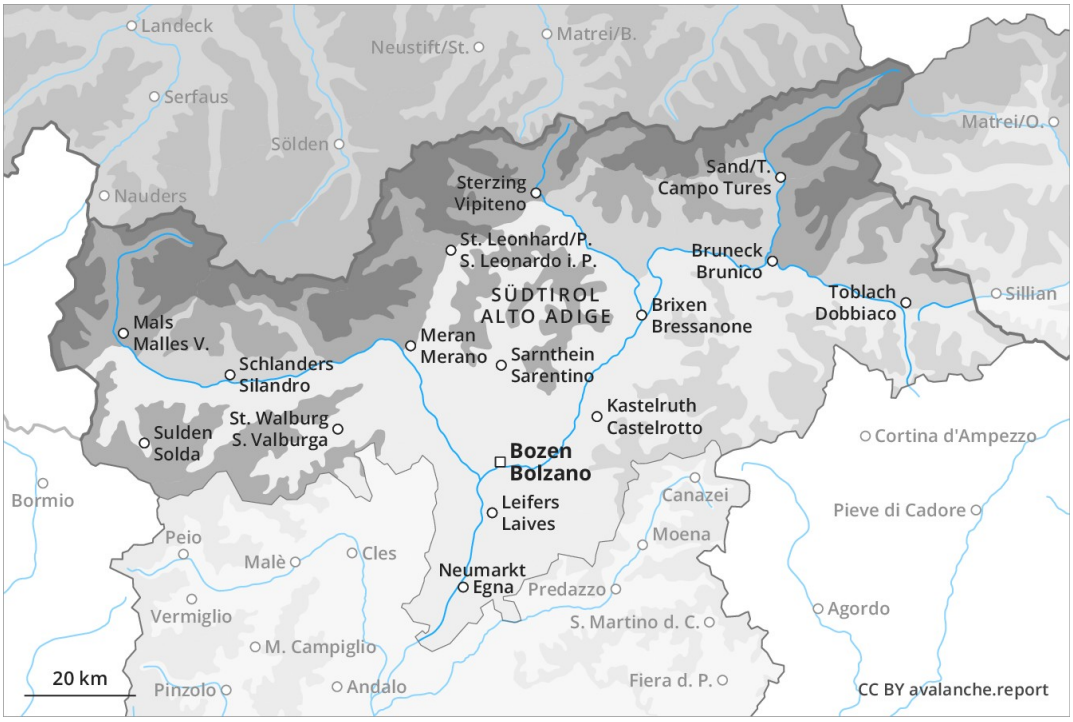
Avalanche.report

AM



PM



1	2	3	4	5
low	moderate	considerable	high	very high

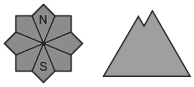
Danger Level 4 - High

AM:

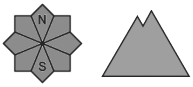
1600m

Tendency: Decreasing avalanche danger
on Thursday 17 01 2019

New snow



Wind-drifted snow



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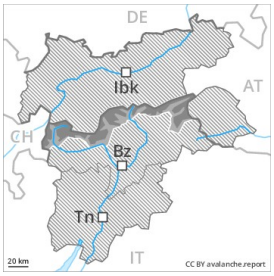


1600m

Tendency: Decreasing avalanche danger
on Thursday 17 01 2019

Wet snow

The avalanche danger will increase quickly during the day.

Many starting zones have released the snow but not entirely. In the regions exposed to heavier precipitation and on steep east, south and west facing slopes more large and, in isolated cases, very large avalanches are to be expected as a consequence of warming during the day. On steep grassy slopes individual medium-sized and, in isolated cases, large gliding avalanches are possible below approximately 2400 m. The conditions are very dangerous for winter sport activities outside marked and open pistes. This also applies in areas close to the tree line and below the tree line. Precautionary closures of transportation routes may be necessary. Closures must be respected and safety instructions of the authorities must be followed.

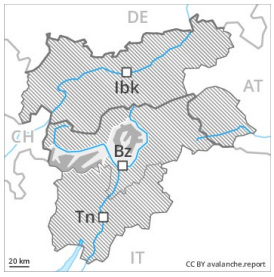
Snowpack

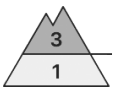
Weak layers in the upper part of the snowpack represent the main danger. The wind slabs have bonded insufficiently with each other and the old snowpack. The fresh snow and wind slabs of last week are lying on the unfavourable surface of an old snowpack in all aspects. Dunes on the snow surface and whumpfing sounds and the formation of shooting cracks when stepping on the snowpack can indicate the danger. Remotely triggered avalanches are possible.

Tendency

Gradual decrease in avalanche danger.

Danger Level 3 - Considerable





Treeline

Tendency: Decreasing avalanche danger
on Thursday 17 01 2019

Wind-drifted snow

Treeline

The sometimes large wind slabs represent the main danger.

As a consequence of fresh snow and strong wind the wind slabs have increased in size additionally in the last few days. Even single backcountry tourers or freeriders can release avalanches in many places, including dangerously large ones. Especially on wind-loaded slopes medium-sized natural avalanches must be expected in isolated cases. The avalanche prone locations are to be found in particular on steep slopes above the tree line. They are widespread but are clearly recognisable to the trained eye. The conditions are sometimes unfavourable for backcountry touring and other off-piste activities.

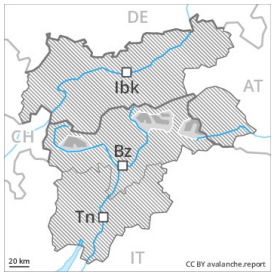
Snowpack

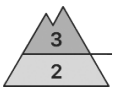
In some cases fresh snow and wind slabs are lying on soft layers. Isolated avalanche prone weak layers exist in the old snowpack. The snowpack will be generally prone to triggering. As a consequence of warming during the day and the solar radiation, the likelihood of dry and moist avalanches being released will increase in particular on steep sunny slopes.

Tendency

Fresh wind slabs represent the main danger.

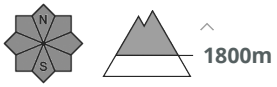
Danger Level 3 - Considerable



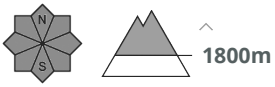


Tendency: Constant avalanche danger
on Thursday 17 01 2019

Wind-drifted snow



Persistent weak layer



The backcountry touring conditions are to some extent critical.

The wind slabs are prone to triggering. These can in many cases be released by small loads. Especially in starting zones where no previous releases have taken place large natural avalanches must be expected in isolated cases. In particular transitions from a shallow to a deep snowpack are unfavourable. In particular in regions with a lot of snow and above approximately 2000 m avalanche prone locations are more prevalent and the danger is slightly greater. The conditions are sometimes critical for backcountry touring and other off-piste activities.

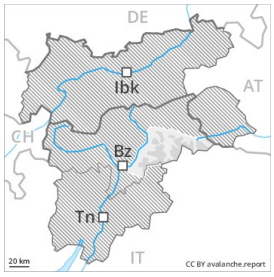
Snowpack

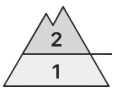
In the last few days extensive wind slabs formed in all aspects. Over a wide area fresh snow and wind slabs are lying on soft layers. Faceted weak layers exist in the old snowpack. The snowpack will be quite prone to triggering. Whumpfing sounds and the formation of shooting cracks when stepping on the snowpack serve as an alarm indicating the danger.

Tendency

Fresh wind slabs represent the main danger.

Danger Level 2 - Moderate





Tendency: Constant avalanche danger
on Thursday 17 01 2019

Wind-drifted snow

Treeline

Fresh wind slabs require caution.

In particular adjacent to ridgelines and in gullies and bowls as well as in high Alpine regions mostly small wind slabs formed. These can be released by small loads. The prevalence of avalanche prone locations and likelihood of triggering will increase at high altitude and in the high Alpine regions.

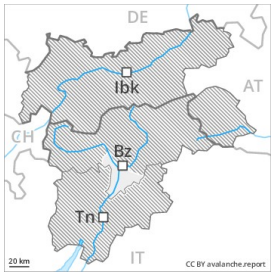
Snowpack

In some cases the wind slabs have bonded poorly with the old snowpack. The snowpack will be subject to considerable local variations.

Tendency

Moderate, level 2.

Danger Level 1 - Low



Tendency: Constant avalanche danger
on Thursday 17 01 2019

Wind-drifted snow

2200m

The wind slabs represent the main danger.

The wind slabs 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. Mostly the avalanches are small but can be released in some cases by a single winter sport participant. 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

0 to 10 cm of snow. has fallen in the last two days. The strong wind will transport the fresh snow. The snowpack will be subject to considerable local variations. In some places wind slabs are lying on a weakly bonded old snowpack. Only a little snow is lying.

Tendency

Low, level 1.