

Danger Level 4 - High



Tendency: Constant avalanche danger →

on Thursday 26 12 2019



Wind-drifted
snow



Treeline



Gliding snow



Treeline

Further increase in avalanche danger as a consequence of fresh snow and wind. Gliding avalanches and wet snow slides are to be expected even now.

Fresh and somewhat older wind slabs are mostly dangerously large and prone to triggering. Caution is to be exercised in particular adjacent to ridgelines, and elsewhere on steep slopes especially at high altitudes and in high Alpine regions. Dry avalanches can additionally be released in near-surface layers, even by a single winter sport participant.

As the penetration by moisture increases small to medium-sized gliding avalanches and moist snow slides are possible. This applies in particular on steep grassy slopes at low and intermediate altitudes.

Snowpack

Danger patterns

dp 6: cold, loose snow and wind

dp 2: gliding snow

Over a wide area 50 to 70 cm of snow, and even more in some localities, will fall above approximately 1000 m. The fresh and older wind slabs are poorly bonded with the old snowpack in all aspects above approximately 1800 m. The snowpack will be subject to considerable local variations at high altitudes and in high Alpine regions.

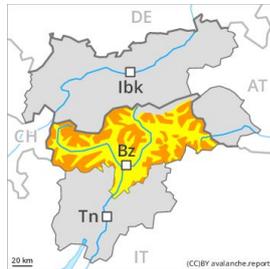
At low and intermediate altitudes the snow is moist.

Tendency

Hardly any decrease in danger of dry and moist avalanches as the snowfall eases.



Danger Level 3 - Considerable



Treeline

Tendency: Constant avalanche danger

on Thursday 26 12 2019 →

Wind-drifted
snow

Treeline



Gliding snow



2400m

The fresh wind slabs represent the main danger.

The current avalanche situation calls for extensive experience in the assessment of avalanche danger. Even single winter sport participants can release avalanches very easily, including large ones. Great caution and restraint are advisable. A few natural avalanches are to be expected, in particular on wind-loaded slopes. The wind slabs are to be found in particular adjacent to ridgelines and in gullies and bowls in all aspects as well as at high altitudes and in the high Alpine regions. As a consequence of the storm force northwesterly wind the prevalence and size of the avalanche prone locations will increase on Christmas Day. In regions neighbouring those that are subject to danger level 4 (high) and in the regions exposed to heavier precipitation avalanche prone locations are more prevalent and the danger is greater. Especially below approximately 2400 m small and medium-sized gliding avalanches and moist snow slides are possible.

Snowpack

Danger patterns

dp 6: cold, loose snow and wind

dp 2: gliding snow

A lot of snow will fall in particular in the north and in the northeast. 20 to 40 cm of snow, and even more in some localities, will fall. The wind slabs have bonded poorly with the old snowpack. Faceted weak layers exist in the old snowpack in particular adjacent to ridgelines. The old snowpack will be moist below approximately 2200 m.

Tendency

Hardly any decrease in avalanche danger. The northwesterly wind will transport the fresh and old snow. Wind slabs represent the main danger. A latent danger of gliding avalanches exists.