

Danger Level 4 - High



Tendency: Decreasing avalanche danger
on Friday 27 12 2019



Wind-drifted
snow



Treeline



Gliding snow



Treeline

Restraint is advisable on this first sunny day after a long period of poor weather.

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

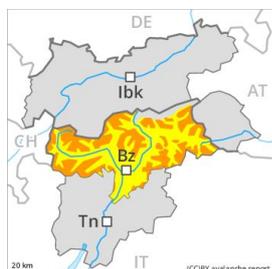
Over a wide area 40 to 60 cm of snow, and even more in some localities, fell above approximately 1000 m. The fresh and older wind slabs are poorly bonded with the old snowpack in all aspects above approximately 1800 m. The snowpack will be subject to considerable local variations at high altitudes and in high Alpine regions.

At low and intermediate altitudes the snow is moist.

Tendency

Slight decrease in avalanche danger as a consequence of the ceasing of precipitation.

Danger Level 3 - Considerable



Tendency: Decreasing avalanche danger
 on Friday 27 12 2019



Wind-drifted
 snow



Treeline



Gliding snow



2400m

The fresh wind slabs represent the main danger. The off-piste conditions are to some extent critical.

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. Natural avalanches are possible, in particular on wind-loaded slopes as well as on steep sunny 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 strong northerly wind the prevalence and size of the avalanche prone locations will increase on Boxing 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

Some snow has fallen in particular in the north. 10 to 30 cm of snow, and even more in some localities, fell. 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

Slight decrease in avalanche danger. Wind slabs represent the main danger. A latent danger of gliding avalanches exists.