# Saturday 01 02 2020

Published 31 01 2020, 17:00



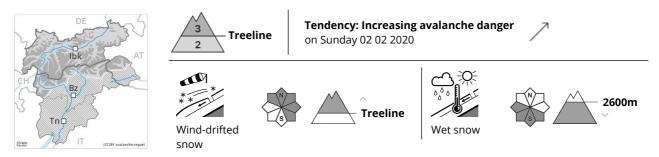








#### Danger Level 3 - Considerable



### Fresh wind slabs - warming.

The backcountry and freeriding conditions remain to some extent precarious. As a consequence of a strong to storm force northwesterly wind, extensive wind slabs formed in particular in the regions exposed to heavier precipitation. Wind slabs can in some places be released, even by a single winter sport participant and reach medium size. These avalanche prone locations are covered with fresh snow and are therefore barely recognisable, even to the trained eye. Whumpfing sounds and the formation of shooting cracks when stepping on the snowpack can indicate the danger.

Significant warming to high altitudes: As a consequence of warming, the likelihood of loose snow avalanches being released will increase significantly on very steep sunny slopes. In addition as the day progresses an increasing number of small and, in isolated cases, medium-sized slab avalanches are possible. A latent danger of gliding avalanches exists, in particular on steep sunny slopes below approximately 2500 m.

### Snowpack

**Danger patterns** 

dp 6: cold, loose snow and wind

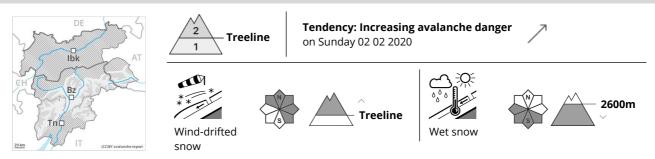
The snowpack will be subject to considerable local variations. The fresh snow and wind slabs are lying on soft layers, especially on wind-protected shady slopes above the tree line as well as in areas close to the tree line. In some places relatively hard layers of snow are lying on old snow containing large grains.

# Tendency

On Sunday as a consequence of the rain there will be a gradual increase in the danger of wet and gliding avalanches.



### **Danger Level 2 - Moderate**



Fresh wind slabs require caution. As a consequence of warming during the day the avalanche prone locations will become more prevalent.

The more recent wind slabs can still be released in particular on steep shady slopes above the tree line. As a consequence of warming during the day small and, in isolated cases, medium-sized moist and wet avalanches are possible. They can be released in the weakly bonded old snow in particular in areas where the snow cover is rather shallow. In particular transitions from a shallow to a deep snowpack where weaknesses exist in the old snowpack are precarious.

#### Snowpack

**Danger patterns** 

dp 6: cold, loose snow and wind

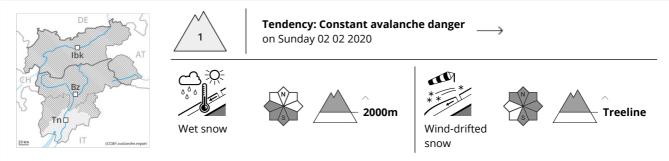
The strong wind has transported the fresh snow significantly. Especially above the tree line mostly small wind slabs formed. Faceted weak layers exist in the snowpack in particular on steep shady slopes. At high altitudes and in high Alpine regions the avalanche prone locations are more prevalent.

# Tendency

Gradual increase in danger of dry and moist avalanches as a consequence of warming during the day and solar radiation.



#### **Danger Level 1 - Low**



As a consequence of warming during the day the avalanche prone locations will become more prevalent as the day progresses.

Fresh and somewhat older wind slabs are mostly rather small and can be released by large loads in particular. At high altitudes and in high Alpine regions avalanche prone locations are a little more prevalent. A clear night will be followed in the early morning by quite favourable conditions generally, but the danger of wet and gliding avalanches will increase later. Moist avalanches can be released in nearground layers in particular in areas where the snow cover is rather shallow. In steep terrain there is a danger of falling on the hard crust.

#### Snowpack

The snowpack will be in most cases well bonded. The strong wind has transported only a little snow. Adjacent to ridgelines and in gullies and bowls mostly small wind slabs formed. Faceted weak layers exist in the old snowpack in particular on rather lightly snow-covered shady slopes.

# Tendency

Temporary increase in danger of dry and moist avalanches as a consequence of warming during the day and solar radiation.