





Danger Level 2 - Moderate



Tendency: Constant avalanche danger →
 on Wednesday 16 12 2020



Wind-drifted
 snow



Treeline



Gliding snow



2600m

Old wind slabs are to be evaluated critically. Areas with glide cracks are to be avoided as far as possible.

In the last few days the natural activity of avalanches has appreciably decreased. The sometimes large wind slabs of last week must be evaluated with care and prudence in particular on west to north to east facing aspects above the tree line. They are in some cases deep and can be released by large loads in particular. On very steep grassy slopes and on sunny slopes gliding avalanches are possible, even quite large ones. Exposed parts of transportation routes can be endangered occasionally especially in the regions with a lot of snow. Areas with glide cracks are to be avoided.

In some places avalanches can be triggered in deep layers of the snowpack and reach large size in isolated cases. This applies in case of releases originating from very steep starting zones at high altitudes and in high Alpine regions that have retained the snow thus far, especially at transitions from a shallow to a deep snowpack. This applies in particular in case of a large load.

Snowpack

Danger patterns

dp.2: gliding snow

dp.6: cold, loose snow and wind

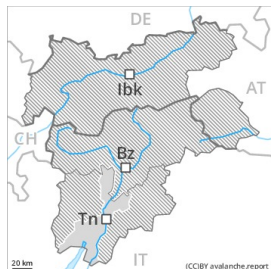
The snowpack will be quite well bonded. More recent wind slabs are to be found in particular in gullies and bowls, and behind abrupt changes in the terrain. In some cases the various wind slabs have bonded poorly together. This applies at high altitudes and in high Alpine regions. Towards its surface, the snowpack is soft and its surface consists of surface hoar. Faceted weak layers exist deep in the old snowpack especially at high altitudes and in high Alpine regions. Towards its base, the snowpack is moist. This applies especially at low and intermediate altitudes.

Tendency

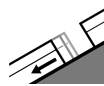
The avalanche danger will persist. Gliding avalanches can be released at any time of day or night.



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Gliding snow



Wind-drifted
snow



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Treeline

Wind slabs are to be evaluated with care and prudence. More gliding avalanches are possible.

Individual gliding avalanches are possible in the afternoon, even medium-sized ones.

The fresh wind slabs are to be evaluated with care and prudence in particular on west to north to east facing aspects above the tree line. The number and size of avalanche prone locations will increase with altitude.

Ski touring calls for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger and careful route selection.

Snowpack

Danger patterns

dp.2: gliding snow

The covering of new snow is fairly homogeneous and has a loosely bonded surface. Towards its base, the snowpack is moist, in particular at low and intermediate altitudes. Naturally triggered avalanches and snow profiles have confirmed this situation. As a consequence of the moderate wind, snow drift accumulations formed during the last few days, in particular adjacent to ridgelines and in gullies and bowls. This applies above the tree line.

Tendency

The avalanche danger will persist.