



## Danger Level 3 - Considerable



**Tendency: Constant avalanche danger** →  
on Saturday 16 01 2021



Wind-drifted  
snow



Treeline



Persistent  
weak layer



Treeline

A dangerous avalanche situation will prevail. New snow and wind slabs represent the main danger.

The new snow and wind slabs are lying on the unfavourable surface of an old snowpack in all aspects, also in areas close to the tree line, as well as below the tree line. Avalanches can be triggered in the faceted old snow and reach large size in isolated cases. Natural avalanches are possible.

As a consequence of the sometimes strong wind the wind slabs will increase in size additionally as the day progresses. Avalanches can in many places be released very easily and reach large size in isolated cases. In the regions neighbouring those that are subject to danger level 4 (high) the avalanche danger is higher. In addition a latent danger of gliding avalanches exists.

Backcountry touring calls for great caution and restraint.

## Snowpack

### Danger patterns

dp.5: snowfall after a long period of cold

dp.8: surface hoar blanketed with snow

Over a wide area 10 to 30 cm of snow, and even more in some localities, has fallen, in particular in the north and in the northwest. In the southeast a little new snow. The sometimes storm force wind has transported the new snow and, in some cases, old snow as well. The brittle wind slabs are lying on unfavourable layers in all aspects. Over a wide area new snow and wind slabs are lying on surface hoar. Precarious weak layers exist in the centre of the snowpack.

## Tendency

The avalanche conditions are to some extent precarious. New snow and wind slabs are to be assessed with care and prudence.



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A dangerous avalanche situation will prevail. The new snow and wind slabs remain prone to triggering.

The new snow and wind slabs are prone to triggering in all aspects. This applies above the tree line, as well as in areas close to the tree line. As a consequence of the sometimes strong wind the wind slabs will increase in size additionally as the day progresses. Avalanches can in many places be released easily and reach medium size.

Additionally in isolated cases avalanches can be released in deep layers. Backcountry touring calls for great caution and restraint.

## Snowpack

### Danger patterns

dp.6: cold, loose snow and wind

dp.8: surface hoar blanketed with snow

5 to 10 cm of snow has fallen since Wednesday. The strong wind has transported the fresh and old snow significantly. The brittle wind slabs are lying on unfavourable layers.

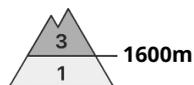
Isolated avalanche prone weak layers exist in the top section of the snowpack.

## Tendency

Outside marked and open pistes a dangerous avalanche situation will prevail.



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### Wind slabs represent the main danger.

The new snow and wind slabs are prone to triggering in all aspects above the tree line. Avalanches can in many places be released easily and reach medium size.

Avalanches can additionally be released in deeper layers also. Remotely triggered avalanches are possible. Especially places where surface hoar has been covered with snow are treacherous. Whumpfung sounds and the formation of shooting cracks when stepping on the snowpack serve as an alarm indicating the danger. In addition a latent danger of gliding avalanches exists.

Backcountry touring calls for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger. Meticulous route selection is important.

### Snowpack

**Danger patterns**

dp.6: cold, loose snow and wind

dp.8: surface hoar blanketed with snow

The strong wind has transported some snow. The brittle wind slabs are poorly bonded with the old snowpack.

Precarious weak layers exist in the top section of the snowpack. As a consequence of low temperatures the snowpack can not consolidate.

### Tendency

Hardly any decrease in avalanche danger.