

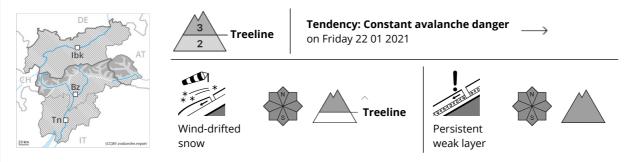


Thursday 21.01.2021

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Danger Level 3 - Considerable



Fresh wind slabs require caution. Weakly bonded old snow requires caution.

The more recent wind slabs can be released easily in all aspects above the tree line, especially at their margins. In addition the hard wind slabs are capable of being triggered in isolated cases still.

Avalanches can in some cases be triggered in deep layers and reach large size. Caution is to be exercised in all aspects also in areas close to the tree line. The avalanche prone locations are sometimes covered with

Gliding avalanches are possible.

Caution and restraint are important.

new snow and are difficult to recognise.

Snowpack

Danger patterns dp.6: cold, loose snow and wind dp.5: snowfall after a long period of cold

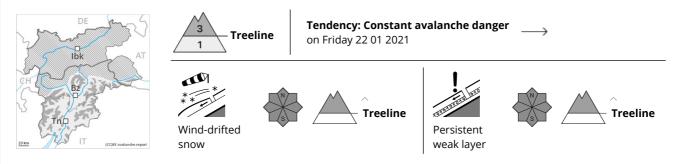
In some regions up to 10 cm of snow, and even more in some localities, will fall. As a consequence of a strong wind from southwesterly directions, further wind slabs will form. The brittle wind slabs are lying on the unfavourable surface of an old snowpack. The old snowpack is faceted; its surface is loosely bonded and consists of surface hoar and faceted crystals. Whumpfing sounds and the formation of shooting cracks when stepping on the snowpack and field observations confirm poor snowpack stability.

Tendency

Fresh wind slabs require caution.



Danger Level 3 - Considerable



Wind slabs and weakly bonded old snow are to be critically assessed.

The fresh and somewhat older wind slabs can in some cases be released easily. In addition the hard wind slabs are capable of being triggered. The prevalence of the avalanche prone locations will increase at high altitude and in the high Alpine regions.

In some places avalanches can be triggered in the faceted old snow and reach large size in some cases. This applies in particular above the tree line.

At low and intermediate altitudes individual gliding avalanches are possible. In steep terrain there is a danger of falling on the hard snow surface. Restraint is recommended.

Snowpack

 Danger patterns
 dp.6: cold, loose snow and wind
 dp.8: surface hoar blanketed with snow

In some regions up to 10 cm of snow will fall. As a consequence of a sometimes strong wind from southwesterly directions, sometimes easily released wind slabs will form. Various wind slab layers are lying on soft layers. Places where surface hoar has been covered with snow are especially precarious. Towards its base, the snowpack is well consolidated.

Tendency

Fresh wind slabs are to be evaluated with care and prudence.