

Danger Level 2 - Moderate



Tendency: Constant avalanche danger →

on Thursday 18 02 2021



Wind-drifted snow



Treeline



Persistent weak layer



Treeline



Gliding snow



2400m

Wind slabs and weakly bonded old snow require caution.

As a consequence of a moderate to strong wind from northwesterly directions, easily released wind slabs formed. The avalanche prone locations are to be found in particular in gullies and bowls, and behind abrupt changes in the terrain above the tree line. The number and size of avalanche prone locations will increase with altitude.

Avalanches can additionally in isolated cases be released in the weakly bonded old snow, in particular by large additional loads, especially at transitions from a shallow to a deep snowpack, when entering gullies and bowls for example. These avalanche prone locations are rare but are barely recognisable, even to the trained eye. Slight increase in danger of moist avalanches as a consequence of warming during the day and solar radiation.

Gliding avalanches can also occur at any time. Areas with glide cracks are to be avoided as far as possible. Meticulous route selection is advisable.

Snowpack

Danger patterns

dp.6: cold, loose snow and wind

dp.7: snow-poor zones in snow-rich surrounding

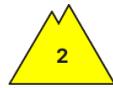
In the north up to 10 cm of snow fell. The fresh and older wind slabs are lying on soft layers above approximately 2000 m. Avalanche prone weak layers exist in the centre of the snowpack. As a consequence of mild temperatures and solar radiation a crust will form on the surface during the night, in particular on steep sunny slopes below approximately 2400 m.

Tendency

The weather conditions will bring about a slow stabilisation of the snow drift accumulations.



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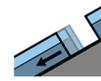
on Thursday 18 02 2021



Wind-drifted snow



2000m



Gliding snow



2200m



Persistent weak layer



Treeline

Wind slabs represent the main danger.

The sometimes large wind slabs represent the main danger. The fresh wind slabs can be released easily, or in isolated cases naturally, in all aspects and generally above the tree line. This applies in particular on very steep slopes, and adjacent to ridgelines.

Avalanches can in isolated cases penetrate deep layers and reach quite a large size. Weak layers in the old snowpack are difficult to recognise. The number and size of avalanche prone locations will increase with altitude.

Slight increase in danger of dry and moist avalanches as a consequence of warming during the day and solar radiation. Areas with glide cracks are to be avoided as far as possible. An appreciable danger of gliding avalanches exists. Backcountry touring calls for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger and careful route selection.

Snowpack

Danger patterns

dp.6: cold, loose snow and wind

The fresh wind slabs remain for the foreseeable future prone to triggering in particular on steep shady slopes. This also applies in gullies and bowls below the tree line. In some cases the various wind slabs have bonded still only poorly.

Faceted weak layers exist in the centre of the snowpack in particular above the tree line.

Towards its base, the snowpack is moist and its surface has a melt-freeze crust, in particular at low and intermediate altitudes.

Tendency

As a consequence of highly fluctuating temperatures the snow drift accumulations will stabilise during the next few days. A latent danger of gliding avalanches exists.



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Wind-drifted
snow



Treeline



Persistent
weak layer



2000m

Wind slabs require caution.

As a consequence of new snow and a moderate to strong wind from westerly directions, mostly small wind slabs will form. The avalanche prone locations are to be found in particular in gullies and bowls, and behind abrupt changes in the terrain above the tree line. The prevalence of avalanche prone locations and likelihood of triggering will increase with altitude.

Loose snow avalanches are to be expected as a consequence of solar radiation, in particular on extremely steep slopes.

Dry avalanches can additionally in isolated cases be released in the weakly bonded old snow, in particular by large additional loads, especially at transitions from a shallow to a deep snowpack, when entering gullies and bowls for example on very steep slopes. Such avalanche prone locations are to be found in particular on west to north to east facing aspects above approximately 2000 m.

Snowpack

Danger patterns

dp.6: cold, loose snow and wind

dp.7: snow-poor zones in snow-rich surrounding

Over a wide area 5 to 10 cm of snow will fall. The fresh wind slabs are lying on soft layers above the tree line.

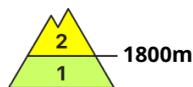
Avalanche prone weak layers exist in the centre of the snowpack, especially between approximately 2000 and 2400 m on steep west, north and east facing slopes.

Tendency

The weather conditions will bring about a slow stabilisation of the snow drift accumulations.



Danger Level 2 - Moderate



Tendency: Constant avalanche danger →

on Thursday 18 02 2021



Wind-drifted
snow



Wind slabs require caution.

The fresh wind slabs are in some cases prone to triggering above the tree line. The avalanche prone locations are to be found in particular adjacent to ridgelines and in gullies and bowls. The avalanches are only small.

Loose snow avalanches are to be expected as a consequence of solar radiation, in particular on extremely steep slopes.

Weak layers in the old snowpack can be released in isolated cases and mostly by large additional loads, especially at high altitude in the Western Kitzbühel Alps.

Snowpack

Danger patterns

dp.6: cold, loose snow and wind

Over a wide area 5 to 10 cm of snow will fall. The sometimes strong wind will transport the new snow. As a consequence of rising temperatures the snow drift accumulations will stabilise during the next few days. Individual weak layers exist in the centre of the snowpack. At low altitude a little snow is lying.

Tendency

The weather conditions will bring about a slow stabilisation of the snow drift accumulations.