

Danger Level 3 - Considerable



Treeline

Tendency: Constant avalanche danger →

on Saturday 21 01 2023



Wind slab



Treeline

Snowpack stability: **poor**

Frequency: **many**

Avalanche size: **medium**



Persistent weak layer



2200m

Snowpack stability: **poor**

Frequency: **some**

Avalanche size: **medium**

The fresh snow as well as the wind slabs represent the main danger. Weakly bonded old snow above approximately 2200 m.

As a consequence of a sometimes strong northeasterly wind, avalanche prone wind slabs will form from early morning over a wide area. The fresh wind slabs can be released easily, even by a single winter sport participant. The avalanche prone locations are to be found in all aspects above the tree line, in particular in gullies and bowls, and behind abrupt changes in the terrain, as well as adjacent to ridgelines. At elevated altitudes and in the regions exposed to the foehn wind the avalanche prone locations are more prevalent and the danger is greater. Individual natural avalanches are not ruled out.

To some extent avalanches can also be released in the old snowpack. Such avalanche prone locations are to be found on steep, little used shady slopes above approximately 2200 m and on steep sunny slopes above approximately 2500 m. Whumpung sounds and the formation of shooting cracks when stepping on the snowpack indicate the danger.

Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger and careful route selection.

Snowpack

Danger patterns

dp.6: cold, loose snow and wind

dp.1: deep persistent weak layer

Especially in the east 5 to 10 cm of snow fell yesterday. As a consequence of a gathering strong wind from northeasterly directions, extensive wind slabs will form from early morning. These will be deposited on soft layers. The snowpack will become increasingly prone to triggering.

Faceted weak layers exist in the old snowpack, especially on shady slopes above approximately 2200 m, as well as on sunny slopes above approximately 2500 m.

Tendency

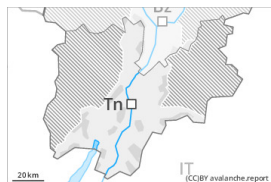
Some snow has fallen over a wide area. As a consequence of low temperatures and the occasionally storm force northeasterly wind, the snowpack can not consolidate on Thursday. As a consequence of the strong



wind the wind slabs will increase in size additionally. Considerable avalanche danger will be encountered over a wide area.



Danger Level 2 - Moderate



Tendency: Increasing avalanche danger
on Saturday 21 01 2023



Wind slab



Treeline

Snowpack stability: **poor**

Frequency: **some**

Avalanche size: **medium**

The fresh snow as well as the wind slabs represent the main danger.

As a consequence of a moderate to strong northeasterly wind, sometimes avalanche prone wind slabs will form in some places. The fresh wind slabs can be released by a single winter sport participant. Mostly the avalanches are small. The avalanche prone locations are to be found in particular in steep terrain and adjacent to ridgelines and in gullies and bowls.

Avalanches can additionally be released in the old snowpack in isolated cases. These avalanche prone locations are rare but are difficult to recognise.

Experience in the assessment of avalanche danger is required.

Snowpack

Danger patterns

dp.6: cold, loose snow and wind

In some regions 5 to 10 cm of snow, and up to 20 cm in some localities, has fallen, especially in the eastern Prealps.

As a consequence of a strengthening wind from northeasterly directions, further wind slabs will form on Friday. These are mostly small and in some cases prone to triggering. The new snow and wind slabs of the last few days are poorly bonded with the old snowpack in some places.

Isolated avalanche prone weak layers exist in the old snowpack, especially on steep, little used shady slopes.

Tendency

On Friday it will be sunny at times. Until Saturday the wind will be moderate to strong over a wide area. The avalanche danger will increase but remain within the current danger level.