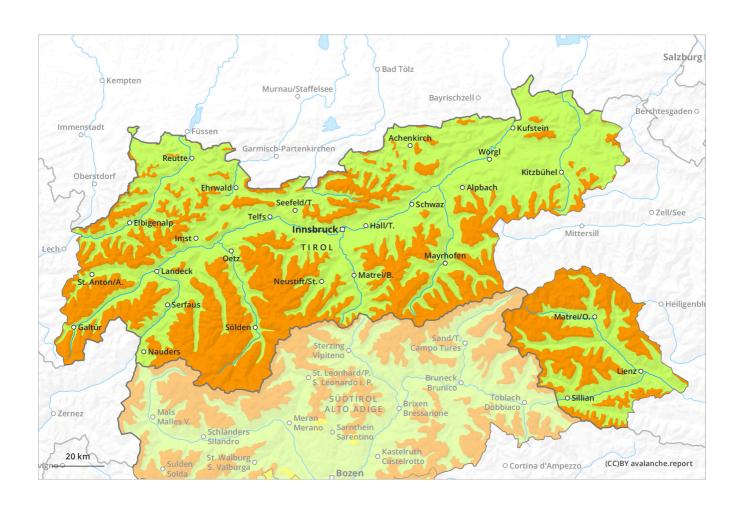
Monday 23.01.2023

Published 22 01 2023, 17:00

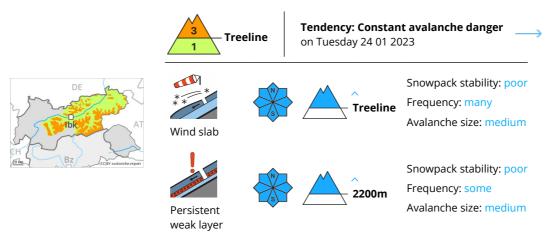












Wind slabs require caution, especially above the tree line, as well as in areas close to the tree line.

As a consequence of new snow and a strong northeasterly wind, avalanche prone wind slabs formed in the last few days over a wide area. As a consequence of the occasionally strong easterly wind, the snow drift accumulations will increase in size on Monday. The fresh and older wind slabs can be released easily, even by a single winter sport participant,. The wind slabs are covered with new snow in some cases and therefore difficult to recognise. Mostly avalanches are medium-sized. The avalanche prone locations are to be found in all aspects above the tree line, in particular adjacent to ridgelines and in pass areas, as well as in gullies and bowls, and behind abrupt changes in the terrain. Caution is to be exercised, including in areas close to the tree line. At elevated altitudes the avalanche prone locations are more prevalent.

Additionally avalanches can also be triggered in deep layers. 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.

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

Over a wide area 30 to 40 cm of snow, and even more in some localities, has fallen since Friday. As a consequence of a strong wind from northeasterly directions, extensive wind slabs formed in the last few days. These will be deposited on soft layers. The snowpack remains prone to triggering especially adjacent to ridgelines in all aspects.

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. Stability tests and field observations confirm that the stability of the snowpack varies greatly within a small area.

Tendency



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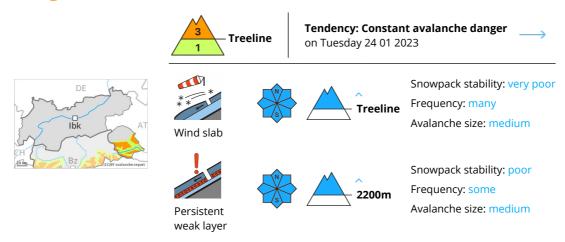
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Above the tree line a considerable avalanche danger will persist.





Further increase in danger of dry avalanches as a consequence of new snow and wind. The current avalanche situation calls for caution and restraint.

As a consequence of new snow and a sometimes strong wind from easterly directions, further wind slabs will form in the course of the day in all aspects. The fresh and somewhat older wind slabs can be released easily, even by a single winter sport participant, above the tree line. As the precipitation becomes more intense the avalanche prone locations will become more prevalent in the afternoon. These avalanche prone locations are sometimes covered with new snow and are barely recognisable because of the poor visibility. Mostly avalanches are medium-sized. Remotely triggered and natural avalanches are possible, this applies especially from the middle of the day.

Additionally avalanches can also be released in deep layers. 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. Especially transitions from a shallow to a deep snowpack are unfavourable. Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for defensive route selection.

Snowpack

Danger patterns dp.6: cold, loose snow and wind dp.1: deep persistent weak layer

Over a wide area 10 to 20 cm of snow will fall. In the south up to 30 cm of snow will fall. The wind will be moderate to strong. The fresh snow and the wind slabs are lying on top of a weakly bonded old snowpack. 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.

The snowpack remains quite prone to triggering. Whumpfing sounds and the formation of shooting cracks when stepping on the snowpack are a clear indication.

Tendency

Considerable avalanche danger will persist. The snowpack remains generally prone to triggering. The cold fresh snow and in particular the sometimes large wind slabs formed by the moderate to strong wind are

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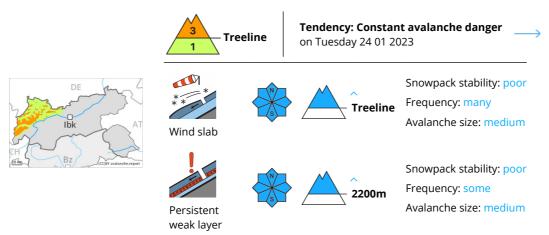
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poorly bonded with the old snowpack. Backcountry touring calls for caution and restraint.







The fresh 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 formed in some places. The fresh and older wind slabs can be released even by a single winter sport participant.

Avalanches can reach medium size. The avalanche prone locations are to be found in all aspects above the tree line, in particular adjacent to ridgelines and in pass areas, as well as in gullies and bowls, and behind abrupt changes in the terrain. Caution is to be exercised, including in areas close to the tree line.

Additionally avalanches can also be released in the old snowpack. These 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.

The number and size of avalanche prone locations will increase with altitude. Meticulous route selection is advisable.

Snowpack

 Danger patterns
 dp.6: cold, loose snow and wind
 dp.1: deep persistent weak layer

As a consequence of a sometimes strong wind from easterly directions, further wind slabs will form. The fresh and older wind slabs are mostly small but 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.

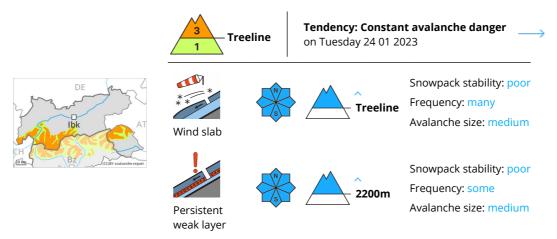
Faceted weak layers exist in the old snowpack, especially on shady slopes above approximately 2200 m, as well as on sunny slopes above approximately 2500 m.

Field observations show that the stability of the snowpack varies greatly within a small area.

Tendency

Considerable avalanche danger will persist.





Considerable avalanche danger will persist. Wind slabs and weakly bonded old snow represent the main danger.

The fresh and older 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. They are numerous and are barely recognisable because of the poor visibility. At elevated altitudes the avalanche prone locations are more prevalent. Mostly avalanches are medium-sized. Remotely triggered avalanches are possible in isolated cases.

Additionally avalanches can also be released in deep layers. 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. Especially transitions from a shallow to a deep snowpack are unfavourable. Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for caution and restraint.

Snowpack

 Danger patterns
 dp.6: cold, loose snow and wind
 dp.1: deep persistent weak layer

In particular in the east and in the west 5 to 10 cm of snow will fall. The wind will be moderate to strong. Fresh wind slabs are lying on weak layers in all aspects above the tree line.

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.

The snowpack remains quite prone to triggering. Whumpfing sounds and the formation of shooting cracks when stepping on the snowpack are a clear indication.

Tendency

Considerable avalanche danger will persist. The fresh wind slabs of the weekend are bonding only slowly with the old snowpack. The snowpack remains quite prone to triggering.