Thursday 14.12.2023

Published 13 12 2023, 17:00

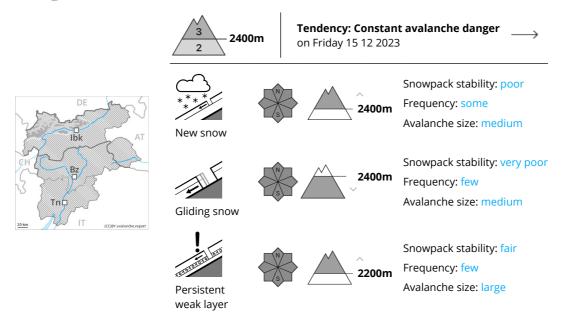








Danger Level 3 - Considerable



New snow represents the main danger. Gliding snow requires caution.

The extensive wind slabs of Wednesday will be covered with new snow and therefore difficult to recognise. Single winter sport participants can release avalanches easily, including medium-sized ones. Shooting cracks when stepping on the snowpack serve as an alarm indicating the danger.

In addition there is a danger of gliding avalanches. This applies on steep grassy slopes below approximately 2400 m.

Weak layers in the old snowpack can be released especially by large additional loads in particular at transitions from a shallow to a deep snowpack, when entering gullies and bowls for example. This applies on very steep slopes above approximately 2200 m. Avalanches can reach large size.

Snowpack

Danger patterns

dp.6: cold, loose snow and wind

dp.2: gliding snow

Over a wide area 20 to 30 cm of snow will fall above approximately 1000 m. The more recent wind slabs are lying on soft layers in all aspects at high altitudes and in high Alpine regions. They will be covered with new snow and therefore difficult to recognise. Faceted weak layers exist in the snowpack in particular above approximately 2200 m. The rain gave rise to thorough wetting of the snowpack in particular at low and intermediate altitudes.

Tendency

As a consequence of falling temperatures the snowpack can settle hardly at all on Friday, especially on steep shady slopes at elevated altitudes. Gradual decrease in danger of gliding avalanches and wet snow

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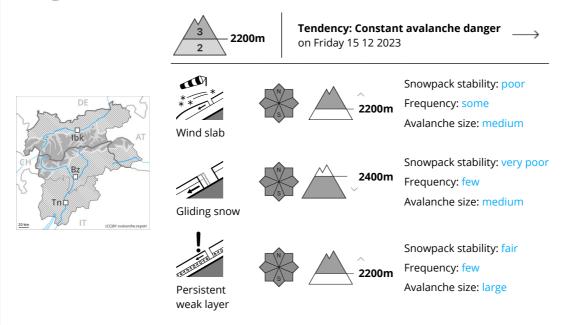


slides as the temperature drops.





Danger Level 3 - Considerable



Wind slabs represent the main danger. Gliding snow requires caution.

The fresh wind slabs are prone to triggering in all aspects. Caution is to be exercised in particular above approximately 2200 m, as well as in gullies and bowls, and behind abrupt changes in the terrain. Avalanches can be released easily and reach medium size. The prevalence of avalanche prone locations and likelihood of triggering will increase with altitude. Shooting cracks when stepping on the snowpack can indicate the danger.

There is a danger of gliding avalanches and moist snow slides. This applies on steep slopes below approximately 2400 m.

Weak layers in the old snowpack can be released especially by large additional loads in particular at transitions from a shallow to a deep snowpack, when entering gullies and bowls for example. This applies on very steep slopes above approximately 2200 m. Avalanches can reach large size in isolated cases.

Snowpack

Danger patterns

dp.6: cold, loose snow and wind

dp.2: gliding snow

Over a wide area 10 to 20 cm of snow, and even more in some localities, will fall above approximately 1000 m. The wind will be strong over a wide area, in particular on the Main Alpine Ridge. As a consequence of new snow and wind from northwesterly directions, further wind slabs will form. More recent wind slabs are lying on soft layers in all aspects at high altitudes and in high Alpine regions. Faceted weak layers exist in the centre of the snowpack in particular above approximately 2200 m.

Tendency



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The fresh wind slabs remain prone to triggering in particular on steep shady slopes at elevated altitudes. Gradual decrease in danger of gliding avalanches and wet snow slides as the temperature drops.



Danger Level 2 - Moderate





Tendency: Constant avalanche danger on Friday 15 12 2023

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Snowpack stability: very poor Frequency: some

Avalanche size: medium

Gliding snow represents the main danger. New snow requires caution.

More medium-sized gliding avalanches are possible. This applies on steep grassy slopes.

The fresh wind slabs are in isolated cases prone to triggering on steep shady slopes. Caution is to be exercised in particular above approximately 2200 m, as well as in gullies and bowls, and behind abrupt changes in the terrain. The avalanche prone locations are covered with new snow and are therefore difficult to recognise.

Snowpack

Danger patterns

dp.2: gliding snow

dp.6: cold, loose snow and wind

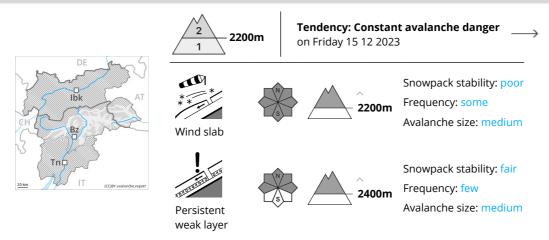
Over a wide area 10 cm of snow, and even more in some localities, will fall above approximately 1000 m. More recent wind slabs are lying on soft layers in particular on near-ridge shady slopes at high altitudes and in high Alpine regions. They will be covered with new snow and therefore difficult to recognise. The rain gave rise to thorough wetting of the snowpack over a wide area in particular at low and intermediate altitudes.

Tendency

Gradual decrease in danger of gliding avalanches as the temperature drops.



Danger Level 2 - Moderate



Wind slabs and weakly bonded old snow require caution.

The fresh and older wind slabs are prone to triggering above approximately 2200 m. Mostly avalanches are medium-sized and can be released even by a single winter sport participant. Caution is to be exercised in particular adjacent to ridgelines and in gullies and bowls. In the regions neighbouring those that are subject to danger level 3 (considerable) the avalanche prone locations are more prevalent.

Weak layers in the old snowpack can be released in very isolated cases in particular at transitions from a shallow to a deep snowpack, when entering gullies and bowls for example. This applies on very steep shady slopes above approximately 2400 m, especially in the north. Avalanches can reach medium size.

On steep slopes mostly small gliding avalanches and moist snow slides are possible below 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 10 to 20 cm of snow, and even more in some localities, has fallen. As a consequence of a strong to storm force northwesterly wind, wind slabs will form. These are lying on soft layers in all aspects at elevated altitudes.

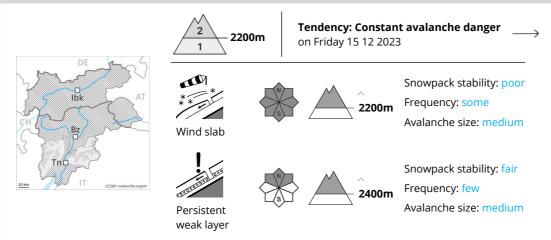
Faceted weak layers exist in the centre of the snowpack in particular above approximately 2400 m.

Tendency

The avalanche danger will persist. The weather conditions will foster a gradual settling of the snow drift accumulations.



Danger Level 2 - Moderate



Some fresh snow and the wind slabs must be evaluated with care and prudence.

The fresh and older wind slabs are prone to triggering above approximately 2200 m. In some cases avalanches are medium-sized and can be released even by a single winter sport participant. Caution is to be exercised in particular adjacent to ridgelines and in gullies and bowls.

Weak layers in the old snowpack can be released in some places even by individual winter sport participants especially at transitions from a shallow to a deep snowpack, when entering gullies and bowls for example. This applies in particular on very steep northwest, north and northeast facing slopes in particular above approximately 2400 m.

Snowpack

Danger patterns

dp.6: cold, loose snow and wind

Over a wide area 5 to 15 cm of snow, and even more in some localities, has fallen above approximately 2000 m. As a consequence of new snow and a moderate to strong northerly wind, further wind slabs will form on Thursday in all aspects. Wind slabs are lying on soft layers in particular on shady slopes at elevated altitudes.

Faceted weak layers exist in the centre of the snowpack in particular above approximately 2400 m. Weak layers in the old snowpack are difficult to recognise.

Tendency

The wind will be moderate to strong over a wide area. On Friday sometimes easily released wind slabs will form especially in the regions exposed to the foehn wind.



Danger Level 1 - Low





Tendency: Constant avalanche danger on Friday 15 12 2023

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Snowpack stability: poor Frequency: few Avalanche size: small

Wind slabs require caution.

The fresh wind slabs are to be assessed with care and prudence. The avalanche prone locations are to be found in particular adjacent to ridgelines and in gullies and bowls, and behind abrupt changes in the terrain. Mostly avalanches are small.

Snowpack

The wind slabs will form in particular adjacent to ridgelines and in gullies and bowls and at elevated altitudes. Snow depths vary greatly above the tree line, depending on the infuence of the wind.

Tendency

Fresh wind slabs require caution.



Danger Level 1 - Low





Tendency: Constant avalanche danger on Friday 15 12 2023

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Snowpack stability: poor Frequency: few Avalanche size: small

Wind slabs require caution.

The fresh and somewhat older wind slabs are to be assessed with care and prudence. The avalanche prone locations are to be found in particular adjacent to ridgelines and in gullies and bowls, and behind abrupt changes in the terrain. Mostly avalanches are small.

Gliding avalanches are possible in isolated cases.

Snowpack

Danger patterns

dp.6: cold, loose snow and wind

In some regions 5 to 15 cm of snow, but less in some localities, has fallen above approximately 2000 m. Snow depths vary greatly above the tree line, depending on the infuence of the wind.

Tendency

The wind will be strong at times over a wide area. On Friday further wind slabs will form especially in the regions exposed to the foehn wind.