

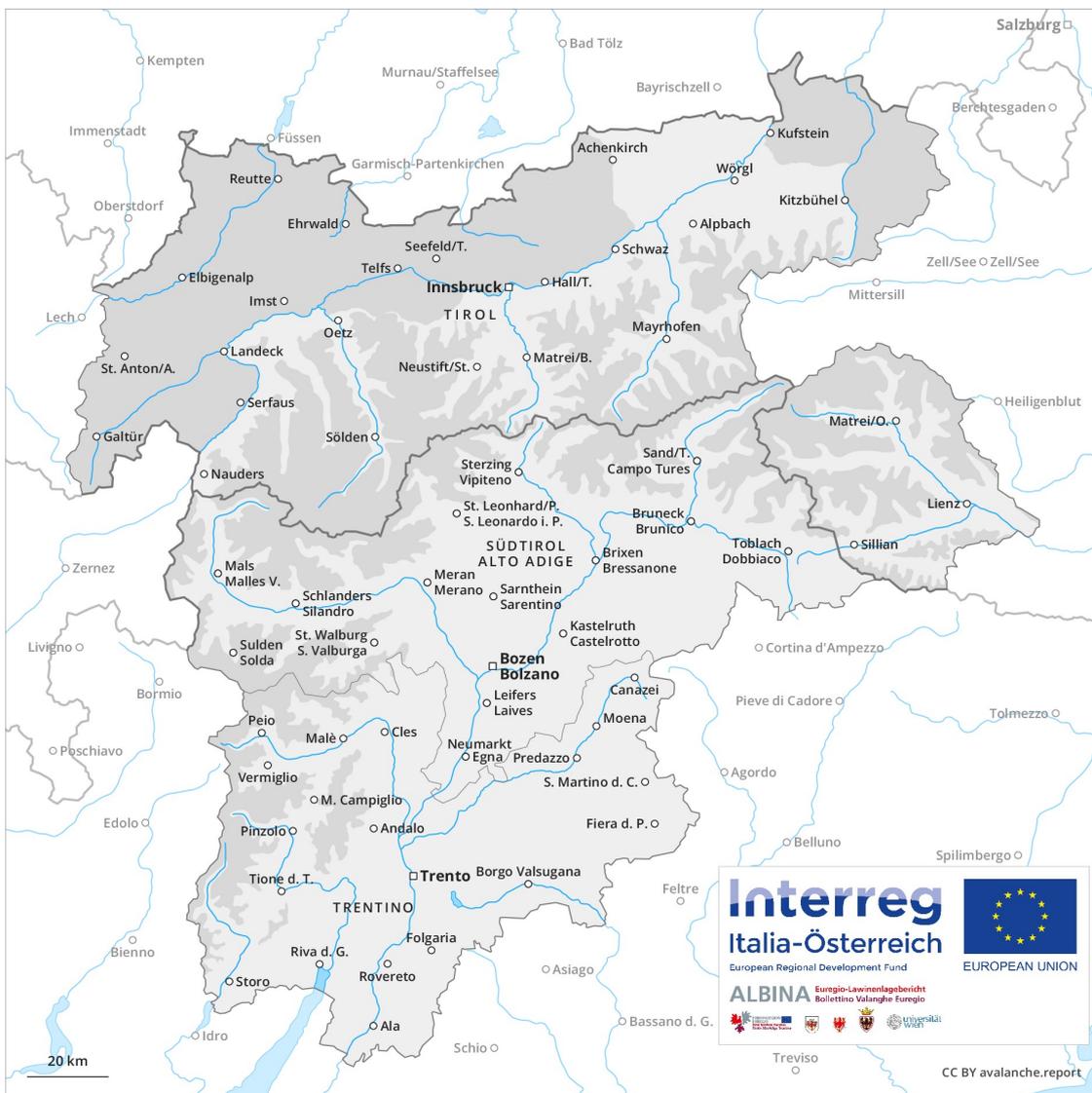
# Avalanche Forecast

## Thursday 20 12 2018

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Avalanche.report



## Danger Level 2 - Moderate



**Tendency: Constant avalanche danger** →  
on Friday 21 12 2018



Wind-drifted  
snow



Persistent  
weak layer



On shady slopes a dangerous avalanche situation will persist in some regions.

The wind slabs must be evaluated with care and prudence in particular on west to north to east facing aspects above approximately 2200 m. The somewhat older wind slabs are to be found in particular adjacent to ridgelines and in gullies and bowls and generally in the high Alpine regions. Dry avalanches can be released in the weakly bonded old snow on rather lightly snow-covered east, north and west facing slopes. Backcountry touring calls for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger.

## Snowpack

The snowpack will be subject to considerable local variations. Isolated avalanche prone weak layers exist in the old snowpack especially above approximately 2400 m. At low and intermediate altitudes thus far only a little snow is lying.

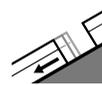
## Danger Level 2 - Moderate



**Tendency: Constant avalanche danger** →  
 on Friday 21 12 2018



Wind-drifted  
 snow



Gliding snow



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

In the last few days mostly small wind slabs formed above the tree line. The avalanche prone locations are to be found in particular adjacent to ridgelines and in gullies and bowls in northwest to north to east facing aspects. The avalanches can be released in the fresh snow and wind slab layers. They are rather small and can mostly only still be released by large loads. Also places where surface hoar has been covered with snow are critical, in particular in areas close to the tree line as well as in shady places that are protected from the wind. As a consequence of warming, the likelihood of gliding avalanches and moist snow slides being released will increase a little. This applies in particular on steep grassy slopes. Areas with glide cracks are to be avoided as far as possible.

### Snowpack

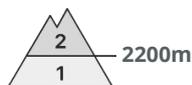
**Danger patterns**

dp 6: cold, loose snow and wind

dp 2: gliding snow

Soft weak layers exist in the top section of the snowpack. The fresh snow and wind slabs of the last few days are lying on surface hoar in particular on shady slopes and in areas close to the tree line. The wind slabs are in some cases still prone to triggering in particular on shady slopes above approximately 2200 m. No distinct weak layers exist in the bottom section of the snowpack.

## Danger Level 2 - Moderate



**Tendency: Constant avalanche danger** →  
on Friday 21 12 2018



Wind-drifted  
snow



Persistent  
weak layer



The danger exists in particular in alpine snow sports terrain. The older wind slabs are mostly shallow but to be assessed with care and prudence.

The mostly shallow wind slabs represent the main danger. They are to be found in particular adjacent to ridgelines in all aspects and in the high Alpine regions. Avalanches can be released, in particular by large loads and reach medium size. The avalanche prone locations are to be found especially on steep shady slopes above approximately 2200 m, and adjacent to ridgelines and in gullies and bowls in all aspects. Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger and careful route selection.

### Snowpack

The wind has transported the fresh snow and, in some cases, old snow as well. Faceted weak layers exist deep in the snowpack in particular on north and east facing slopes. The snowpack remains subject to considerable local variations in particular on wind-loaded slopes.

### Tendency

The backcountry touring conditions remain quite favourable. In some localities wind and fresh snow above approximately 500 m: The prevalence of avalanche prone locations and likelihood of triggering will increase at intermediate altitude as well.

## Danger Level 2 - Moderate



**Tendency: Decreasing avalanche danger**  
on Friday 21 12 2018



Wind-drifted  
snow



### Fresh wind slabs represent the main danger.

As a consequence of a moderate to strong wind from westerly directions, clearly visible wind slabs formed in the last few days above the tree line. The fresh wind slabs are mostly small but prone to triggering. The avalanche prone locations are to be found in particular adjacent to ridgelines and in gullies and bowls in northwest to north to east facing aspects. At high altitude avalanche prone locations are more prevalent.

### Snowpack

**Danger patterns**

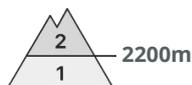
dp 6: cold, loose snow and wind

Soft weak layers exist in the top section of the snowpack. The fresh wind slabs are lying on surface hoar in some places. The snowpack will be subject to considerable local variations. No distinct weak layers exist in the bottom section of the snowpack. At low altitude from a snow sport perspective, in most cases insufficient snow is lying.

### Tendency

Slight decrease in avalanche danger.

## Danger Level 2 - Moderate



**Tendency: Constant avalanche danger** →  
 on Friday 21 12 2018



Wind-drifted  
 snow



Persistent  
 weak layer



Wind slabs represent the main danger. Weakly bonded old snow requires caution.

As a consequence of a moderate to strong wind from westerly directions, clearly visible wind slabs formed in the last few days above the tree line. The avalanche prone locations are to be found in particular adjacent to ridgelines and in gullies and bowls in northwest to north to east facing aspects. Avalanches can in isolated cases be released by a single winter sport participant, but they will be small in most cases. In high Alpine regions and in the regions exposed to the foehn wind avalanche prone locations are a little more prevalent. Also places where surface hoar has been covered with snow are critical, in particular, west of the Sill. Weak layers in the lower part of the snowpack can be released in some places by winter sport participants on steep west, north and east facing slopes, in particular between approximately 2300 and 2800 m. This applies especially in areas where the snow cover is rather shallow. Careful route selection is advisable.

## Snowpack

### Danger patterns

dp 6: cold, loose snow and wind

dp 1: deep persistent weak layer

The snowpack will be in some cases prone to triggering. The mostly small wind slabs of the last few days are lying on soft layers on northwest to north to east facing aspects. Places where surface hoar has been covered with snow are especially unfavourable. Faceted weak layers exist in the old snowpack on steep west, north and east facing slopes, in particular above approximately 2300 m and below approximately 2800 m. Isolated whumpfung sounds serve as an alarm indicating the danger.

## Danger Level 2 - Moderate



**Tendency: Decreasing avalanche danger**  
on Friday 21 12 2018



Wind-drifted  
snow



### Fresh wind slabs represent the main danger.

As a consequence of a moderate to strong wind from westerly directions, clearly visible wind slabs formed in the last few days above the tree line. The fresh wind slabs are mostly small but prone to triggering. The avalanche prone locations are to be found in particular adjacent to ridgelines and in gullies and bowls in northwest to north to east facing aspects. At high altitude avalanche prone locations are more prevalent.

### Snowpack

#### Danger patterns

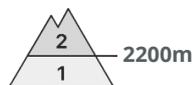
dp 6: cold, loose snow and wind

Soft weak layers exist in the top section of the snowpack. The fresh wind slabs are lying on surface hoar in some places. The snowpack will be subject to considerable local variations. No distinct weak layers exist in the bottom section of the snowpack. At low altitude from a snow sport perspective, in most cases insufficient snow is lying.

### Tendency

Slight decrease in avalanche danger.

## Danger Level 2 - Moderate



**Tendency: Decreasing avalanche danger**  
on Friday 21 12 2018



Wind-drifted  
snow



### Wind slabs represent the main danger.

As a consequence of wind from westerly directions, clearly visible wind slabs formed in the last few days above the tree line. These are lying on surface hoar in some places especially on shady slopes. The avalanche prone locations are to be found on northwest to north to east facing aspects above approximately 2200 m, especially in gullies and bowls, and behind abrupt changes in the terrain. Mostly avalanches are only small but can be released by a single winter sport participant. As a consequence of warming, the likelihood of moist snow slides being released will increase a little below the tree line.

### Snowpack

**Danger patterns**

dp 6: cold, loose snow and wind

Soft weak layers exist in the top section of the snowpack. The mostly small wind slabs of the last few days are in some cases still prone to triggering. Wind slabs are lying on surface hoar in particular on shady slopes. The snowpack will be subject to considerable local variations. No distinct weak layers exist deep in the snowpack. At low altitude from a snow sport perspective, in most cases insufficient snow is lying.

### Tendency

Slight decrease in avalanche danger.

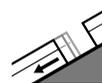
## Danger Level 2 - Moderate



**Tendency: Constant avalanche danger** →  
 on Friday 21 12 2018



Wind-drifted  
 snow



Gliding snow



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

In the last few days mostly small wind slabs formed above the tree line. The no longer entirely fresh wind slabs can still be released in some cases above approximately 2200 m. The avalanche prone locations are to be found in particular adjacent to ridgelines and in gullies and bowls in northwest to north to east facing aspects. Mostly the avalanches are small. The number and size of avalanche prone locations will increase with altitude. Also places where surface hoar has been covered with snow are critical, in particular in areas close to the tree line as well as in shady places that are protected from the wind. As a consequence of warming, the likelihood of gliding avalanches and moist snow slides being released will increase a little. This applies in particular on steep grassy slopes below approximately 2400 m. Areas with glide cracks are to be avoided as far as possible.

## Snowpack

**Danger patterns**

dp 6: cold, loose snow and wind

dp 2: gliding snow

Soft weak layers exist in the top section of the snowpack. The fresh snow and wind slabs of the last few days are lying on surface hoar in particular on shady slopes and in areas close to the tree line. The wind slabs are in some cases still prone to triggering in particular on shady slopes above approximately 2200 m. No distinct weak layers exist in the bottom section of the snowpack.

## Danger Level 1 - Low



**Tendency: Constant avalanche danger** →  
on Friday 21 12 2018



Wind-drifted  
snow



2000m



Favourable  
situation



Only a little snow is lying on north and northeast facing slopes.

The avalanche prone locations are very rare and are clearly recognisable to the trained eye. Caution is to be exercised in particular in gullies and bowls above approximately 2000 m and adjacent to ridgelines and in pass areas. Apart from the danger of being buried, restraint should be exercised in particular in view of the danger of avalanches sweeping people along and giving rise to falls.

### Snowpack

The snowpack will be in most cases well bonded. In all altitude zones from a snow sport perspective, in most cases insufficient snow is lying.

### Tendency

The snowpack will be quite well bonded. As a consequence of the snowfall the prevalence of avalanche prone locations will increase during the course of the night.

## Danger Level 1 - Low



**Tendency: Constant avalanche danger** →  
on Friday 21 12 2018



Wind-drifted  
snow



2200m

The danger exists in particular in alpine snow sports terrain. The older wind slabs are mostly shallow but to be assessed with care and prudence.

The mostly shallow wind slabs represent the main danger. They are to be found in particular adjacent to ridgelines in all aspects and in the high Alpine regions. Avalanches can as before be released, in particular by large loads, but they will be small in most cases. Individual avalanche prone locations are to be found especially on steep shady slopes above approximately 2200 m, and adjacent to ridgelines and in gullies and bowls in all aspects. Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for meticulous route selection.

### Snowpack

The wind has transported the fresh snow and, in some cases, old snow as well. The snowpack remains prone to triggering in particular on wind-loaded slopes.

### Tendency

The backcountry touring conditions remain mostly favourable.

## Danger Level 1 - Low



**Tendency: Constant avalanche danger** →  
on Friday 21 12 2018



Wind-drifted  
snow



### Hardly any snow is lying.

Caution is to be exercised in particular adjacent to ridgelines and in gullies and bowls and on wind-loaded slopes. The avalanche prone locations are very rare and are clearly recognisable to the trained eye. Apart from the danger of being buried, restraint should be exercised in particular in view of the danger of avalanches sweeping people along and giving rise to falls.

### Snowpack

The snowpack will be subject to considerable local variations. In all altitude zones from a snow sport perspective, in most cases insufficient snow is lying.

### Tendency

Especially in shady places that are protected from the wind the avalanche prone locations will become more prevalent during the second half of the night.