

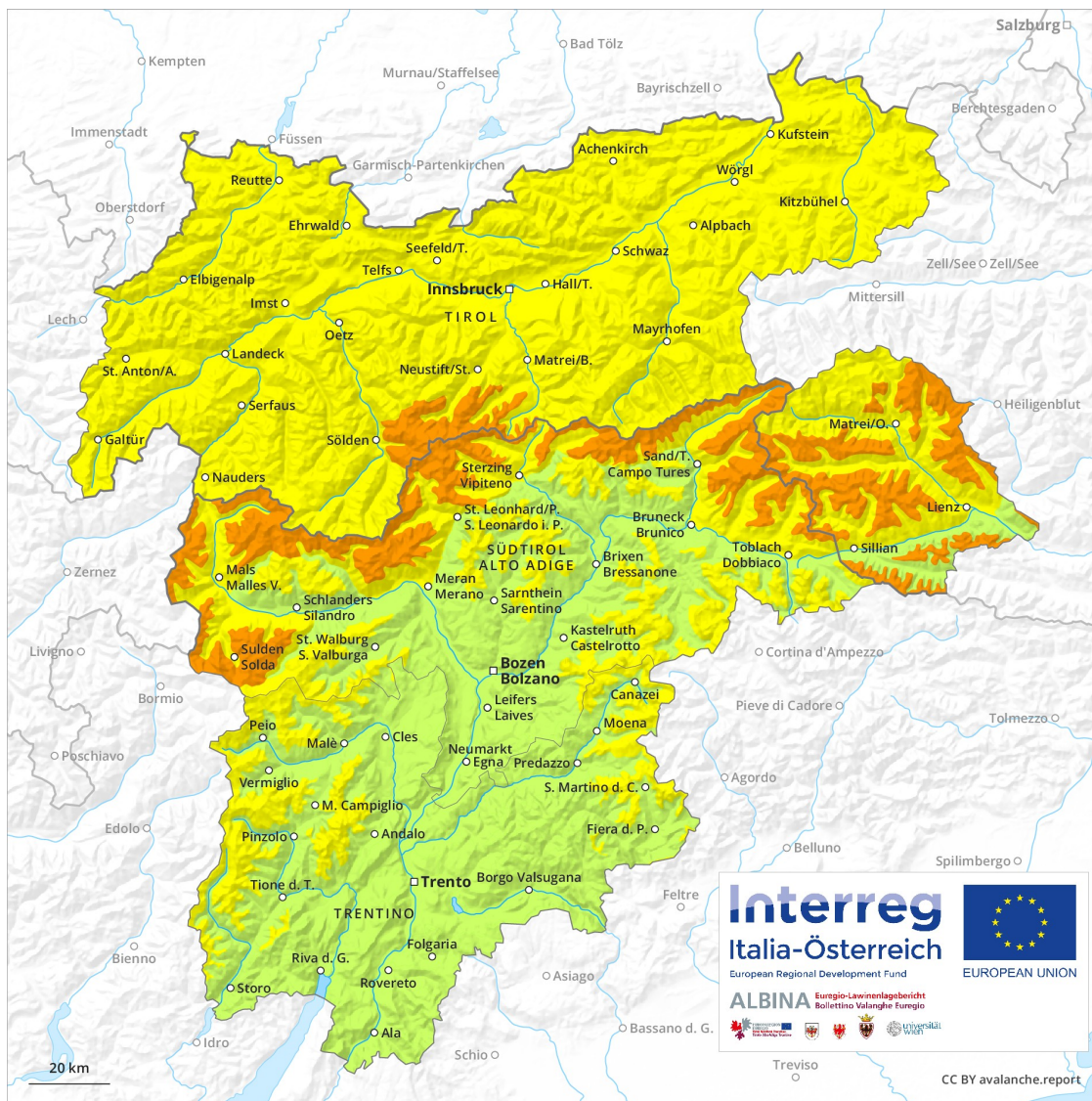
Avalanche Forecast

Sunday 20 01 2019

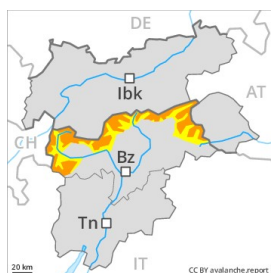
Published 20 01 2019, 08:00



Avalanche.report



Danger Level 3 - Considerable



Tendency: Decreasing avalanche danger
on Monday 21 01 2019



Wind-drifted
snow



Treeline



Persistent
weak layer



Treeline

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

The somewhat older wind slabs are to be evaluated with care and prudence in particular in very steep terrain. Avalanches can be released in deeper layers especially at transitions from a shallow to a deep snowpack, when entering gullies and bowls for example. Whumpfing sounds and the formation of shooting cracks when stepping on the snowpack serve as an alarm sign. On steep grassy slopes individual small and medium-sized gliding avalanches are possible below approximately 2400 m.

Snowpack

In some cases the various wind slabs have bonded still only poorly with each other and the old snowpack. Avalanche prone weak layers exist in the bottom section of the old snowpack. In some cases avalanches can penetrate even deep layers and reach large size in isolated cases. In little used backcountry terrain the avalanche prone locations are more prevalent. Caution is to be exercised in areas with glide cracks.

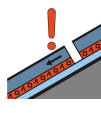
Tendency

Gradual decrease in avalanche danger.

Danger Level 3 - Considerable



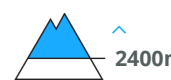
Tendency: Constant avalanche danger →
 on Monday 21 01 2019



Persistent weak layer



Wind-drifted snow



Weakly bonded old snow requires caution. Wind slabs are to be found especially adjacent to ridgelines.

Weakly bonded old snow: Weak layers in the lower part of the snowpack can be released in some places even by individual winter sport participants between approximately 1600 and 2400 m. This applies especially at transitions from a shallow to a deep snowpack as well as in areas where the snow cover is rather shallow. Wind slabs: By Friday mostly small wind slabs formed especially adjacent to ridgelines. The wind slabs can be released by a single winter sport participant in some cases in particular on steep shady slopes above approximately 2400 m. The avalanche prone locations are clearly recognisable to the trained eye. On steep grassy slopes individual gliding avalanches are possible below approximately 2400 m. This applies in all aspects. Backcountry touring calls for restraint. Maintaining distances between individuals and one-at-a-time descents are recommended.

Snowpack

Danger patterns

dp 4: cold following warm / warm following cold

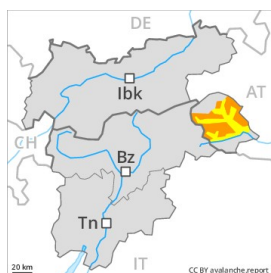
dp 6: cold, loose snow and wind

The snowpack will be in some cases unstable. Faceted weak layers exist in the bottom section of the snowpack between approximately 1600 and 2400 m. In addition the wind slabs are prone to triggering in some cases still.

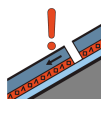
Tendency

The avalanche danger will persist.

Danger Level 3 - Considerable



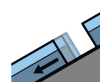
Tendency: Constant avalanche danger →
on Monday 21 01 2019



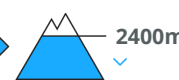
Persistent
weak layer



2400m
1600m



Gliding snow



2400m

Distinct weak layers in the old snowpack can be released easily.

Faceted weak layers exist in the bottom section of the snowpack between approximately 1600 and 2400 m. In all aspects avalanches can be triggered in the weakly bonded old snow and reach large size in some cases, this applies even in case of a single winter sport participant. Caution is to be exercised in places that are protected from the wind in areas close to the tree line as well as above the tree line. Especially transitions from a shallow to a deep snowpack are unfavourable. The avalanche prone locations are barely recognisable, even to the trained eye. Remotely triggered avalanches are possible in isolated cases. In addition the mostly small wind slabs in particular adjacent to ridgelines on north facing slopes are capable of being triggered in some cases still. Careful route selection and spacing between individuals are recommended. Below approximately 2400 m individual gliding avalanches are possible.

Snowpack

Danger patterns

dp 4: cold following warm / warm following cold

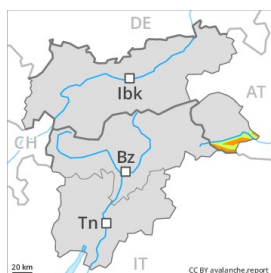
dp 2: gliding snow

The snowpack will be quite prone to triggering. Faceted weak layers exist in the bottom section of the snowpack. This applies between approximately 1600 and 2400 m. In addition the mostly small wind slabs of the last few days are capable of being triggered in some cases still.

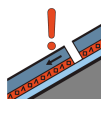
Tendency

Weak layers in the old snowpack represent the main danger.

Danger Level 3 - Considerable



Tendency: Constant avalanche danger →
 on Monday 21 01 2019



Persistent weak layer



Treeline



Wind-drifted snow



2400m

Weakly bonded old snow. Fresh wind slabs are to be evaluated with care and prudence.

As a consequence of a sometimes strong wind, wind slabs formed by Thursday in particular adjacent to ridgelines and in gullies and bowls. These are in some cases extensive and can be released easily. They are poorly bonded with the old snowpack. At elevated altitudes avalanche prone locations are more prevalent. Restraint should be exercised because avalanches can sweep people along and give rise to falls.

Snowpack

Danger patterns

dp 1: deep persistent weak layer

dp 6: cold, loose snow and wind

Fresh wind slabs are lying on top of a weakly bonded old snowpack. The snowpack will be subject to considerable local variations. From a snow sport perspective, in most cases insufficient snow is lying.

Tendency

The avalanche danger will persist.

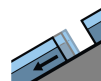
Danger Level 2 - Moderate



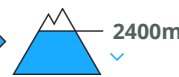
Tendency: Constant avalanche danger →
on Monday 21 01 2019



Wind-drifted
snow



Gliding snow



Wind slabs at high altitudes and in high Alpine regions. Individual gliding avalanches can also occur.

As a consequence of a moderate to strong wind, avalanche prone wind slabs formed by Friday in particular adjacent to ridgelines. The fresh wind slabs are mostly only small and in some cases prone to triggering. At elevated altitudes the avalanche prone locations are more prevalent and larger. These places are clearly recognisable to the trained eye. On steep grassy slopes more gliding avalanches are possible below approximately 2400 m. This applies especially on sunny slopes.

Snowpack

Danger patterns

dp 6: cold, loose snow and wind

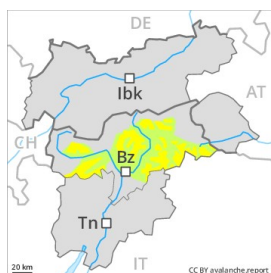
dp 2: gliding snow

The more recent wind slabs are in individual cases still prone to triggering. No distinct weak layers exist in the bottom section of the snowpack.

Tendency

Wind slabs are to be avoided.

Danger Level 2 - Moderate



Tendency: Constant avalanche danger →
 on Monday 21 01 2019



Wind-drifted
 snow



Persistent
 weak layer



Fresh wind slabs require caution.

In particular adjacent to ridgelines and in gullies and bowls as well as in high Alpine regions mostly small wind slabs formed. These can be released by small loads. The prevalence of avalanche prone locations and likelihood of triggering will increase at high altitude and in the high Alpine regions. Avalanche prone weak layers exist in the bottom section of the snowpack in all aspects.

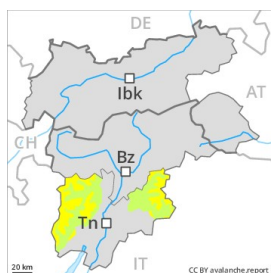
Snowpack

In some cases the wind slabs have bonded poorly with the old snowpack. These avalanche prone locations are but are easy to recognise. The snowpack will be subject to considerable local variations.

Tendency

Moderate, level 2.

Danger Level 2 - Moderate



Tendency: Constant avalanche danger →

on Monday 21 01 2019



Wind-drifted
snow



Persistent
weak layer



Old wind slabs are to be evaluated critically.

Hardly any more natural avalanches are to be expected. In some cases the various wind slabs have bonded still only poorly with the old snowpack. The mostly small wind slabs can be released by a single winter sport participant in isolated cases in all aspects above approximately 2200 m. The avalanche prone locations are to be found in gullies and bowls, and adjacent to ridgelines in all aspects. These places are quite prevalent but are clearly recognisable to the trained eye. In particular above approximately 2700 m avalanche prone locations are more widespread and the danger is greater.

Snowpack

The fresh snow and wind slabs of the last few days are lying on the quite favourable surface of an old snowpack in particular on east to south to southwest facing aspects. Faceted weak layers exist in the snowpack especially on steep, rather lightly snow-covered shady slopes. Below approximately 2000 m thus far only a little snow is lying. In some places fresh snow and wind slabs are lying on a hard crust.

Tendency

Moderate, level 2.

Danger Level 1 - Low



Tendency: Constant avalanche danger →
on Monday 21 01 2019



Wind-drifted
snow



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

The mostly small wind slabs have bonded quite well with the old snowpack especially on sunny slopes. These are to be found especially adjacent to ridgelines and in gullies and bowls and generally at high altitudes. The avalanche prone locations are rather rare and are easy to recognise. Mostly the avalanches in these locations are small and can be released by large loads. 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

In all regions from a snow sport perspective, in most cases insufficient snow is lying. The snowpack remains generally well bonded.

Tendency

Low, level 1.

Danger Level 1 - Low



Tendency: Constant avalanche danger →
on Monday 21 01 2019



Wind-drifted
snow



Only a little snow is lying.

The mostly small wind slabs have bonded quite well with the old snowpack especially on sunny slopes. These are to be found especially adjacent to ridgelines and in gullies and bowls and generally at high altitudes. Mostly the avalanches in these locations are small and can be released by large loads. The avalanche prone locations are rather rare and are easy to recognise. 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

In all regions from a snow sport perspective, in most cases insufficient snow is lying.

Tendency

Low, level 1.