



Danger Level 2 - Moderate



Tendency: Constant avalanche danger →

on Sunday 19 01 2020



Wind-drifted
snow



Treeline

The fresh wind slabs can be released easily.

As a consequence of fresh snow and strong wind the wind slabs will increase in size on Saturday. In the regions where more snow falls danger level 3 (considerable) may be reached. The rather small wind slabs can be released easily, even by a single winter sport participant, especially on northeast to north to south facing aspects above the tree line. The avalanche prone locations are to be found especially on wind-loaded slopes. Individual dry slab avalanches are possible. They can in isolated cases be released in the old snowpack and reach quite a large size especially on shady slopes.

Snowpack

5 to 10 cm of snow, and up to 15 cm in some localities, will fall from late morning in all altitude zones. The strong wind will transport the fresh snow and, in some cases, old snow as well. Over a wide area easily released wind slabs will form. The fresh snow and wind slabs of Saturday will be deposited on the unfavourable surface of an old snowpack in particular on shady slopes above approximately 2000 m. Faceted weak layers exist in the snowpack in particular here. Apart from the danger of being buried, restraint should be exercised as well in view of the danger of avalanches sweeping people along and giving rise to falls.

Tendency

Fresh wind slabs represent the main danger.

Danger Level 1 - Low



Tendency: Constant avalanche danger →
on Sunday 19 01 2020

Low, level 1.

The avalanche prone locations are very rare.

Dry avalanches can in very isolated cases be released in the old snowpack, in particular adjacent to ridgelines and in areas where the snow cover is rather shallow. Here individual mostly small avalanches are possible. Caution is to be exercised in particular on extremely steep shady slopes. Apart from the danger of being buried, restraint should be exercised as well in view of the danger of avalanches sweeping people along and giving rise to falls.

A latent danger of gliding avalanches exists, in particular on steep sunny slopes below approximately 2400 m.

Snowpack

In some places relatively hard layers of snow are lying on old snow containing large grains, in particular on shady slopes at high altitudes and in high Alpine regions as well as adjacent to ridgelines. Extremely steep, little used shady slopes are to be evaluated with care and prudence.

The old snowpack will be moist at low and intermediate altitudes. The surface of the snowpack has frozen to form a strong crust and will soften during the day. This applies in particular on steep sunny slopes.

There is a danger of falling on the hard snow surface.

Tendency

The backcountry touring conditions remain favourable.