

Danger Level 3 - Considerable



Tendency: Constant avalanche danger →
on Friday 31 01 2020



New snow



Wind-drifted snow



Fresh snow and wind slabs in all aspects.

The backcountry and freeriding conditions remain critical. As a consequence of fresh snow and a strong to storm force northwesterly wind, extensive wind slabs formed in particular in the regions exposed to heavier precipitation. The fresh snow will be deposited on soft layers in particular on west to north to east facing aspects above the tree line. Fresh snow and wind slabs can in many places be released, even by a single winter sport participant and reach medium size. More small and, in isolated cases, medium-sized natural avalanches are possible. Whumpfung sounds and the formation of shooting cracks when stepping on the snowpack can indicate the danger.

Snowpack

Danger patterns

dp 5: snowfall after a long period of cold

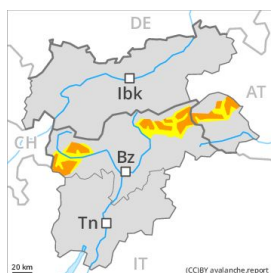
dp 6: cold, loose snow and wind

20 to 40 cm of snow, and even more in some localities, fell. The sometimes storm force wind has transported a lot of snow. The fresh snow and wind slabs will be deposited on soft layers, especially on wind-protected shady slopes above the tree line as well as in areas close to the tree line. The old snowpack will be subject to considerable local variations, in particular adjacent to ridgelines. In some places relatively hard layers of snow are lying on old snow containing large grains. In some places fresh snow and wind slabs are lying on surface hoar, in particular in places that are protected from the wind and in areas close to the tree line.

Tendency

Significant warming to the high Alpine regions. Outside marked and open pistes a critical avalanche situation will prevail.

Danger Level 3 - Considerable



Tendency: Increasing avalanche danger
on Friday 31 01 2020



Wind-drifted
snow



Wind slabs require caution.

The backcountry and freeriding conditions are to some extent precarious. Caution and restraint are important.

As a consequence of fresh snow and a strong to storm force northwesterly wind, dangerous wind slabs formed in particular in the regions exposed to heavier precipitation. The fresh snow is lying on the unfavourable surface of an old snowpack in all aspects. Fresh snow and wind slabs can in many places be released very easily and reach medium size. Only isolated natural avalanches are possible.

Snowpack

Danger patterns

dp 5: snowfall after a long period of cold

dp 6: cold, loose snow and wind

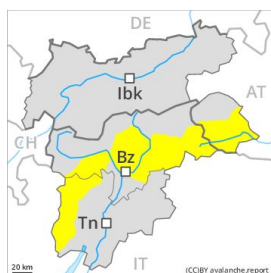
The snowpack will be subject to considerable local variations. In some places relatively hard layers of snow are lying on old snow containing large grains, in particular adjacent to ridgelines as well as on wind-loaded slopes. The sometimes storm force wind has transported the fresh snow and, in some cases, old snow as well. Caution is to be exercised in particular in places that are protected from the wind and in areas close to the tree line.

Tendency

Increase in danger of dry and moist avalanches as a consequence of warming.



Danger Level 2 - Moderate



Tendency: Constant avalanche danger →
on Friday 31 01 2020



Wind-drifted
snow



Treeline

Fresh wind slabs require caution.

The fresh wind slabs can be released by a single winter sport participant in some cases in particular on steep shady slopes. They can be released in the weakly bonded old snow in particular in areas where the snow cover is rather shallow. In particular transitions from a shallow to a deep snowpack where weaknesses exist in the old snowpack are precarious. These places are clearly recognisable to the trained eye.

Snowpack

Danger patterns

dp 5: snowfall after a long period of cold

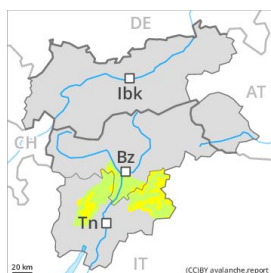
dp 6: cold, loose snow and wind

5 to 10 cm of snow, but less in some localities, fell. The strong wind has transported the fresh snow and, in some cases, old snow as well. Especially above the tree line sometimes easily released wind slabs formed. The fresh snow and wind slabs of the last two days are lying on the unfavourable surface of an old snowpack in particular on shady slopes. Faceted weak layers exist in the old snowpack in particular here. At high altitudes and in high Alpine regions the avalanche prone locations are more prevalent.

Tendency

As a consequence of warming during the day and solar radiation dry and moist avalanches are possible.

Danger Level 2 - Moderate



Tendency: Constant avalanche danger →
on Friday 31 01 2020



Wind-drifted
snow



Treeline

Fresh wind slabs are to be evaluated with care and prudence.

In these regions the wind slabs have increased in size hardly at all. Mostly avalanches are only small but in some cases easily released. At high altitudes and in high Alpine regions avalanche prone locations are a little more prevalent. Adjacent to ridgelines avalanches can be triggered in deep layers of the snowpack and reach medium size in some cases. Restraint should be exercised because avalanches can sweep people along and give rise to falls. In steep terrain there is a danger of falling on the hard snow surface.

Snowpack

Danger patterns

dp 6: cold, loose snow and wind

Up to 5 cm of snow, but less in some localities, fell above approximately 1200 m. The strong wind has transported the fresh and old snow. Especially above the tree line mostly small wind slabs formed. The fresh snow and wind slabs are lying on top of a weakly bonded old snowpack in particular on shady slopes. Faceted weak layers exist in the old snowpack in particular here.

Tendency

Wind slabs require caution.