

Danger Level 3 - Considerable



Tendency: Constant avalanche danger →
 on Saturday 01 02 2020



New snow



Treeline



Persistent weak layer



Treeline

Outside marked and open pistes a critical avalanche situation will persist in some cases.

The backcountry and freeriding conditions remain critical. The wind slabs of the last few days are very prone to triggering especially on west to north to east facing aspects above the tree line. Even single winter sport participants can release avalanches very easily, including dangerously large ones. The avalanche prone locations are covered with fresh snow and are barely recognisable. Whumpung sounds and the formation of shooting cracks when stepping on the snowpack are a clear indication of a weakly bonded snowpack. In highly frequented off-piste terrain the situation is more favourable.

Significant warming to high altitudes. As a consequence of warming, the likelihood of loose snow avalanches being released will increase significantly on very steep sunny slopes. In addition as the day progresses an increasing number of mostly small natural dry avalanches are possible. A latent danger of gliding avalanches exists, in particular on steep grassy slopes below approximately 2200 m.

Snowpack

Danger patterns

dp 5: snowfall after a long period of cold

dp 6: cold, loose snow and wind

In some regions 5 cm of snow will fall above approximately 1800 m. The wind will be moderate for a temporary period. Over a wide area fresh snow and wind slabs are lying on a weakly bonded old snowpack, especially on wind-protected west, north and east facing slopes above the tree line. As a consequence of a weakening westerly wind, further wind slabs will form in particular in places that are protected from the wind.

Faceted weak layers exist in the snowpack in particular on shady slopes. In some places fresh snow and wind slabs are lying on surface hoar, in particular in places that are protected from the wind in areas close to the tree line.

Tendency

Outside marked and open pistes a critical avalanche situation will prevail.

Danger Level 3 - Considerable



Tendency: Increasing avalanche danger
on Saturday 01 02 2020



New snow



Wind-drifted
snow



Wind slabs in all aspects.

The backcountry and freeriding conditions remain to some extent unfavourable, especially on shady slopes in areas close to the tree line as well as above the tree line. The fresh snow is lying on soft layers on west to north to east facing aspects above the tree line. These avalanche prone locations are covered with fresh snow and are therefore barely recognisable, even to the trained eye. Fresh snow and wind slabs can in some places be released by a single winter sport participant. In highly frequented off-piste terrain and below the tree line the situation is a little more favourable.

Significant warming to high altitudes: As a consequence of warming, the likelihood of loose snow avalanches being released will increase significantly on very steep sunny slopes. In addition as the day progresses an increasing number of mostly small natural dry avalanches are possible. A latent danger of gliding avalanches exists, in particular on steep grassy slopes below approximately 2200 m.

Snowpack

Danger patterns

dp 5: snowfall after a long period of cold

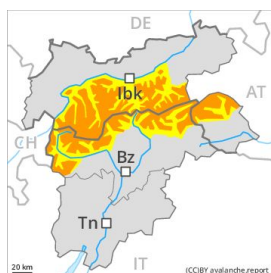
dp 6: cold, loose snow and wind

The fresh snow and wind slabs of the last few days 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. Below the tree line a little snow is lying.

Tendency

A sometimes unfavourable avalanche situation will persist.

Danger Level 3 - Considerable



Tendency: Constant avalanche danger →
 on Saturday 01 02 2020



New snow



Wind-drifted snow



Fresh snow and wind slabs in all aspects.

The backcountry and freeriding conditions remain to some extent unfavourable. 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. It is lying on soft layers in particular on west to north to east facing aspects above the tree line. Fresh snow and wind slabs can in some places be released, even by a single winter sport participant and reach medium size. These avalanche prone locations are covered with fresh snow and are therefore barely recognisable, even to the trained eye.

Whumpfung sounds and the formation of shooting cracks when stepping on the snowpack can indicate the danger. In highly frequented off-piste terrain and below the tree line the situation is a little more favourable.

Significant warming to high altitudes: As a consequence of warming, the likelihood of loose snow avalanches being released will increase significantly on very steep sunny slopes. In addition as the day progresses an increasing number of mostly small natural dry avalanches are possible. A latent danger of gliding avalanches exists, in particular on steep grassy slopes below approximately 2200 m.

Snowpack

Danger patterns

dp 5: snowfall after a long period of cold

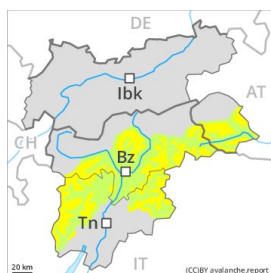
dp 6: cold, loose snow and wind

The snowpack will be subject to considerable local variations above the tree line, in particular adjacent to ridgelines. The fresh snow and wind slabs are lying on soft layers, especially on wind-protected shady slopes above the tree line as well as in areas close to the tree line. In some places relatively hard layers of snow are lying on old snow containing large grains.

Tendency

Outside marked and open pistes a sometimes unfavourable avalanche situation will prevail.

Danger Level 2 - Moderate



Tendency: Constant avalanche danger →
 on Saturday 01 02 2020



Wind-drifted
 snow



Treeline



Wet snow



2500m ✓

Fresh wind slabs are to be evaluated with care and prudence. As a consequence of warming during the day the avalanche prone locations will become more prevalent as the day progresses.

The more recent wind slabs can still be released in particular on steep shady slopes above the tree line. As a consequence of warming during the day individual small and, in isolated cases, medium-sized moist and wet avalanches are possible. 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 sometimes covered with fresh snow but 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

The strong wind has transported the fresh snow significantly. 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

Gradual increase in danger of dry and moist avalanches as a consequence of warming during the day and solar radiation.

Danger Level 1 - Low



Tendency: Constant avalanche danger →
 on Saturday 01 02 2020



Wet snow



2000m



Wind-drifted
 snow



Treeline

As a consequence of warming during the day the avalanche prone locations will become more prevalent as the day progresses. Fresh wind slabs require caution.

In these regions the wind slabs have increased in size hardly at all. As a consequence of warming during the day individual mostly small moist and wet avalanches are possible. They can be released in the weakly bonded old snow in particular in areas where the snow cover is rather shallow. At high altitudes and in high Alpine regions avalanche prone locations are a little more prevalent. 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 crust.

Snowpack

Danger patterns

dp 6: cold, loose snow and wind

In particular adjacent to ridgelines and in pass areas mostly small wind slabs formed. The strong wind has transported only a little snow. 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 especially here.

Tendency

Gradual increase in danger of dry and moist avalanches as a consequence of warming during the day and solar radiation.