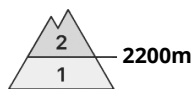


Danger Level 2 - Moderate



Tendency: Constant avalanche danger →

on Wednesday 11 December 2024



Wind slab



Caution urged towards trigger-sensitive snowdrift accumulations

Danger assessment

As a result of fresh snowfall and strong-to-storm strength winds from varying directions, trigger-sensitive snowdrift accumulations have been generated since Friday, particularly in gullies, bowls and behind protruberances in the landscape. These can be triggered by one single skier in all aspects above 2200m. Due to winds the drifted masses will continue to grow further, particularly on SE-S-SW facing slopes in high alpine regions. Caution is urged esp. along the Salzburg. border in the regions where there has been snowfall. Avalanches are medium-sized in isolated cases. Apart from the risks of being buried in snow masses, the danger of being swept along and forced to take a fall need to be taken into consideration.

Snowpack

Danger patterns

dp.6: cold, loose snow and wind

dp.1: deep persistent weak layer

From place to place, 20-25 cm of snowfall has fallen since Friday. Winds were blowing at strong-to-storm strength. Freshly generated snowdrift accumulations are poorly bonded with each other and with the old snow. The upper layers of the snowpack are soft; the lower layers are faceted.

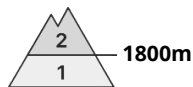
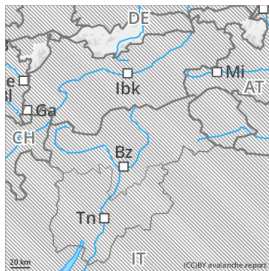
Weather

On Monday, the low-pressure front will maintain its impact, the mountains will be shrouded in clouds, light snowfall will prevail initially. Moderate to strong NE winds. At 1000m: -1 degree; at 2000m: -6 degrees; at 3000m: -11 degrees.

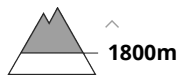
Tendency

Forecasts of developments, including of avalanche danger, are still uncertain.

Danger Level 2 - Moderate



Wind slab



Snowdrifts often prone to triggering

Danger assessment

Avalanche danger above 1800m is moderate, danger is low below that altitude. Fresh and older snowdrifts are the major problem, these can trigger a small-to-medium sized slab avalanche by minimum additional loading in some places. They are blanketed by just a bit of fresh snow, making them hard to recognize. Danger zones occur near to ridgelines, in all aspects and in wind-loaded gullies and bowls. Frequency of avalanche prone locations tends to increase with ascending altitudes.

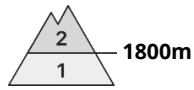
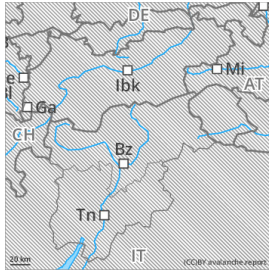
Snowpack

Winds from varying directions have generated snowdrift accumulations over the last few days. In some places there are trigger-sensitive intermediate layers evident. The last cm of fresh fallen snow on Monday fell without much wind. At high altitudes of the Allgäu Alps on sites where the snow is shallow, there is a layer of faceted crystals beneath a thin melt-freeze crust in the old snowpack. The old snowpack at high and high alpine altitudes is marked by wind influence. Snow depths vary a great deal.

Tendency

Avalanche danger levels are expected to slowly recede.

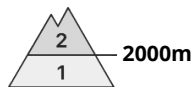
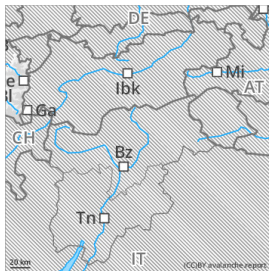
Danger Level 2 - Moderate



Wind slab



Danger Level 2 - Moderate



Tendency: Constant avalanche danger →

on Wednesday 11 December 2024



Wind slab



Caution urged towards snowdrifts with increasing altitude

Danger assessment

At higher altitudes the freshly-generated and older snowdrift accumulations are prone to triggering in some places, easily triggered as small-sized, in isolated cases as medium sized slab avalanches. Danger zones occur behind protruberances in the landscape, in gullies and bowls, and on freshly wind-loaded slopes. Magnitude and spread tend to increase with ascending altitude. Avalanche headquarters currently has little data from outlying regions about the snowpack, for that reason a cautious on-site evaluation is important. Below the treeline, avalanche danger is low. Isolated danger zone for small triggerings (slides) are possible in steep terrain. The risks of being swept along and forced to take a fall need to be considered.

Snowpack

By Monday evening, 5-10 cm of fresh snow is anticipated. It will be deposited on a largely well consolidated old snowpack surface showing marked effects from wind. Knolls and ridges are often completely windblown, gullies and bowls often filled to the brim with snow. With ascending altitude, mostly small-to-medium snowdrift masses are evident, particularly in ridgeline and pass areas. They are only moderately well bonded in themselves and also with the old snowpack surface, making them prone to triggering.

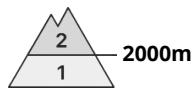
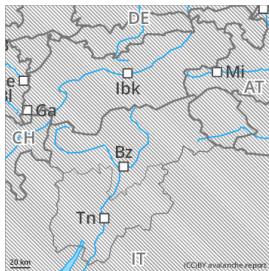
Weather

In the evening and during the night, widespread light-to-moderate snowfall extending down to low lying areas. Monday will be cloudy all day long, with light snowfall coming from the low lying clouds and fog. At 2000m: -6 degrees. High altitude winds: moderate to brisk from NE to E.

Tendency

Starting on Tuesday it will turn intermittently sunny, but remain quite cold. Thus, no significant change in danger levels is expected.

Danger Level 2 - Moderate



Tendency: Decreasing avalanche danger
on Wednesday 11 December 2024



Wind slab



Limited Visibility conditions - Caution: snow drift is prone to triggering, especially in gullies and bowls with old snowpacks.

Danger assessment

The Avalanche danger above around 1.800 m AMSL is moderate, below 1.800 m AMSL: low. Stormy winds from west to northwest cleared out exposed slopes but drifted snow towards gullies and bowls behind ridgelines. Snowdrift packs tend to be prone to triggering, possible slab avalanches are small to medium, could be triggered by individual skiers with small additional load. Due to temporary warming and radiation on Saturday the situation eased out on sunny slopes, the situation on shady slopes is marginal changing. Due to wind shift increasing snowdrift in west sector is expected. Depending on the wind influence avalanche prone locations can offer only weak snowpack layers, risk of falling.

Snowpack

In the area of the northern Alps as well as on the north side of Tauern the amount of new snow during the night of Saturday is significantly more than predicted. The amount of new snow in Totes Gebirge and the area of Hochschwab is about 50 cm. The snow got on bare soils, fresh snow drift in gullies and bowls in high shady slopes got on bonded snow from the last November days which transformed to faceted snow crystals.

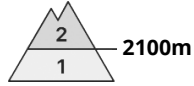
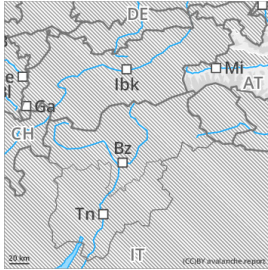
Weather

The low pressure weather system from northern Italy causes cold and medium wet air masses from southeast to drift to the area of the Eastern Alps. Monday will be dominated by low based clouds, the mountain ranges are foggy with few snow. Wind low to medium from Northeast to southeast, temperatures around noon reaching in 1.500 m AMSL -5 °C and in 2.000 m AMSL -8° C. The following days will stay moderately cold and unstable. No larger amounts of snow are called.

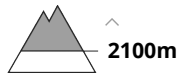
Tendency

Low amounts of new snow and weakening wind will not lead to significant changes of the avalanche danger scale.

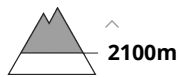
Danger Level 2 - Moderate



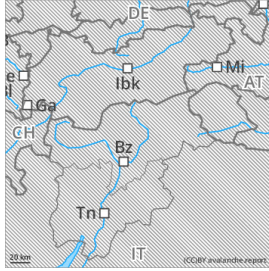
Wind slab



New snow



Danger Level 1 - Low



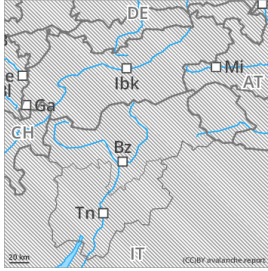
Tendency: Constant avalanche danger →
on Wednesday 11 December 2024



Wind slab



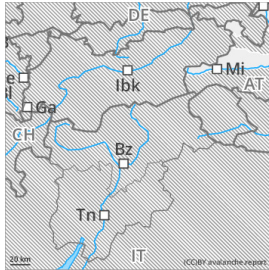
Danger Level 1 - Low



Wind slab



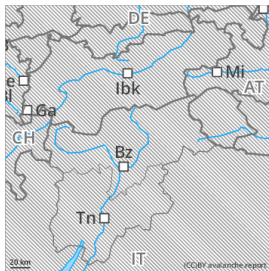
Danger Level 1 - Low



New snow



Danger Level 1 - Low



Tendency: Constant avalanche danger →
on Wednesday 11 December 2024



Wind slab



Limited visibility Conditions - Small Danger zones due to snow drifts

Danger assessment

The avalanche prone locations due to new snow drift are located on shady slopes, where the new snow is above of rests of old snow from the last Novemberdays. In higher altitudes the fundament has transformed to faceted snow crystals and is in relation to snow drift prone to triggering. Slab avalanches are possible with higher additional load, but the amount of the possible avalanche stays small. Falling risks due to minor snow pack.

Snowpack

South of the Alps few snow, expected snowfall during the night predominately north of the Alps. Precipitations are forecasted only on the edge of the Southern Alps, no great amount of new snow is predicted. Vivid Winds during the weekend have spread the new snow unevenly in the area, leading to cleared slopes but snow drifted gullies and bowls.

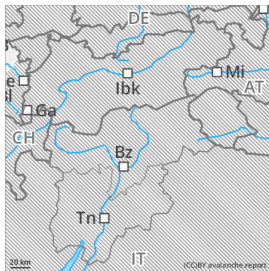
Weather

The low pressure weather system from northern Italy causes cold and medium wet airmasses from southeast to drift to the area of the Eastern Alps. Monday will be dominated by low based clouds, the mountain ranges are foggy with few snow. Wind low to medium from Northeast to southeast, temperatures around noon reaching in 1.500 m AMSL -5 °C and in 2.000 m AMSL -8° C. The following days will stay moderately cold and unstable. No larger amounts of snow are called.

Tendency

Decreasing winds, few new snow will not lead to significant changes of the avalanche danger.

Danger Level 1 - Low



Tendency: Constant avalanche danger →
on Wednesday 11 December 2024



Wind slab



Treeline

Caution urged towards small-sized snowdrifts

Danger assessment

Above the treeline, fresh, mostly small snowdrift accumulations require caution. Isolated danger zones for small avalanche triggerings (slides) in steep terrain and freshly wind-loaded slopes are possible. Avalanche headquarters currently has little data from outlying regions about the snowpack, for that reason a cautious on-site evaluation is important. Below the treeline, no marked avalanche problem is evident.

Snowpack

By Monday evening, 5-10 cm of fresh snow is anticipated widespread, to be transported by winds. Often the snowfall will be deposited on bare ground. At high altitudes it will be deposited on a well consolidated old snowpack with marked effects of wind influence. Above the treeline and with increasing altitude, fresh, generally small snowdrift accumulations are evident, particularly in ridgeline and pass areas.

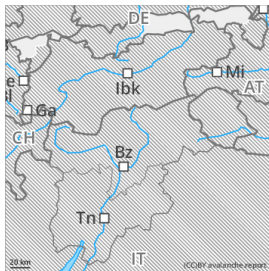
Weather

In the evening and during the night, widespread light-to-moderate snowfall extending down to low lying areas. Monday will be cloudy all day long, with light snowfall coming from the low lying clouds and fog. At 2000m: -6 degrees. High altitude winds: moderate to brisk from NE to E.

Tendency

Currently, no significant change is expected.

Danger Level 1 - Low



Wind slab



Low avalanche danger

Danger assessment

Avalanche danger is low, in isolated cases small drifts can trigger small sized slab avalanches by minimum additional loading, e.g. the weight of one single skier. Danger zones occur particularly in steep terrain near ridgelines on S/W/N facing slopes and in wind-loaded gullies and bowls. They are covered by a small amount of fresh snow, thus are difficult to recognize. The risks of being forced to take a fall outweigh those of being buried in snow masses.

Snowpack

Small snowdrift accumulations generated on Monday are now covered by a few cm of fresh fallen snow. Older drifted masses are mostly well bonded, unlikely to trigger. The old snowpack at high altitudes shows marked signs of wind influence, is thus highly irregular.

Tendency

Little change in avalanche danger levels is anticipated.