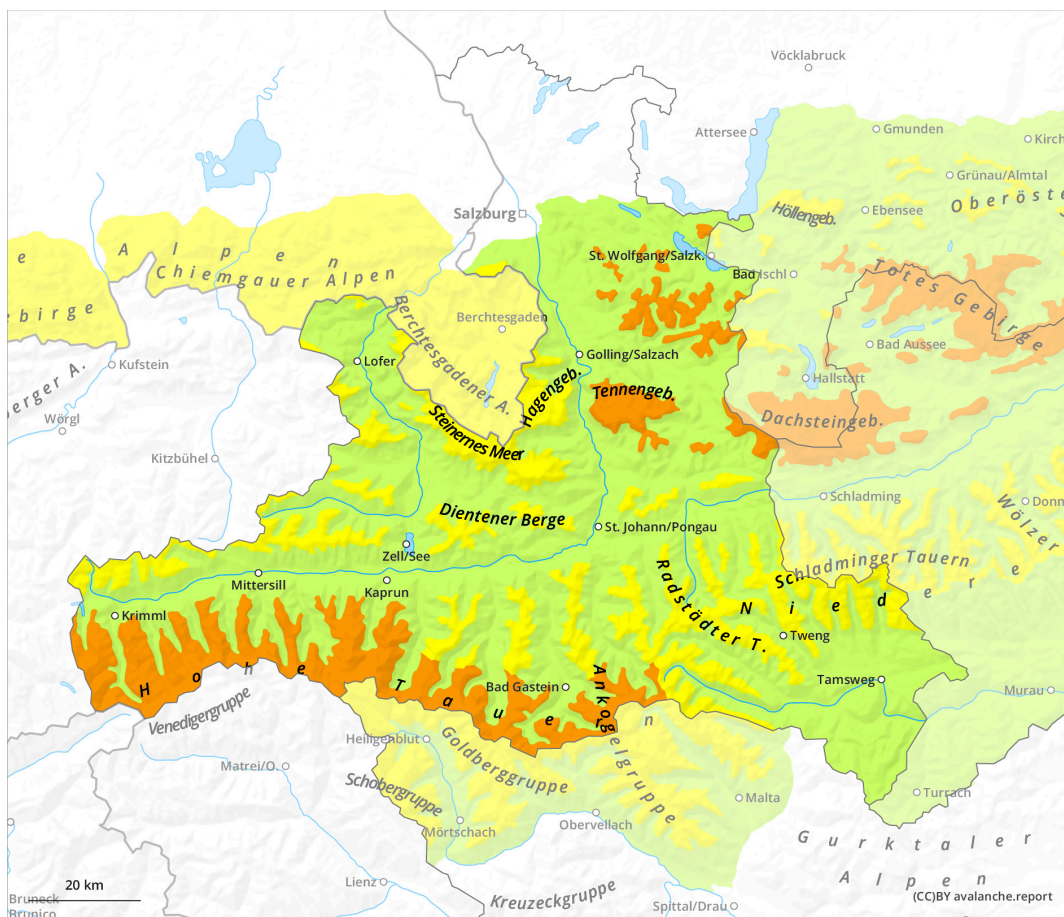


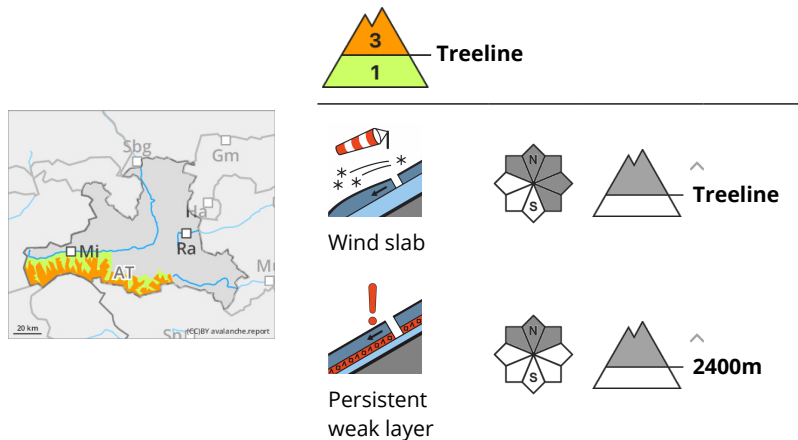
# Avalanche bulletin Salzburg

## Monday 16 December 2024

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## Danger Level 3 - Considerable



### In high alpine regions avalanches can fracture in the old snowpack

#### Danger assessment

Avalanche danger above the treeline is CONSIDERABLE. The major problem: freshly generated snowdrift accumulations which can trigger a medium-sized slab avalanche even by minimum additional loading. Danger zones occur both near to and far from ridgelines behind protruberances in the landscape and in steep gullies and bowls, particularly in NW/N/SE facing slopes. Above 2400m, avalanches fracturing from the surface layer can fracture deeper and grow to large size in isolated cases. In very steep and unstructured terrain below 2200m, isolated naturally triggered glide-snow avalanches are possible. Avoid terrain below glide cracks.

#### Snowpack

Fresh snow and fresh snowdrifts, particularly on shady wind-protected slopes, are being deposited atop surface hoar. At high and high alpine altitudes, snowdrifted masses are being blanketed by southerly foehn winds as well as W/NW winds and are prone to triggering. Beneath these drifts the snow from September and November constitutes the snowpack base which above 2400m often is weakened by layers of faceted crystals. The snow is distributed highly irregularly, ridges are often utterly windblown, and the fresh fallen snow does not cover the ground everywhere sufficiently. On very steep grassy slopes the snowpack tends to glide over the smooth ground.

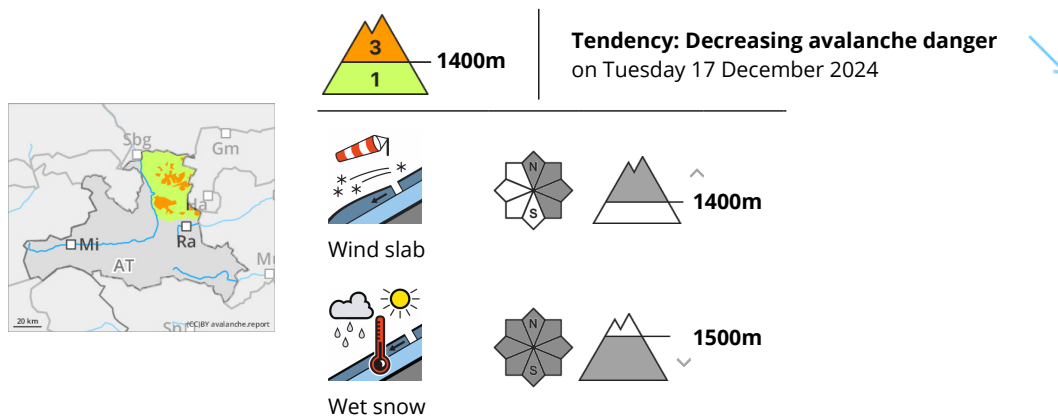
#### Weather

On Saturday night, up to 10 cm of fresh snowfall is anticipated. Strong - and in exposed terrain even storm-strength winds - from west to northwest will transport the fresh snow in irregular fashion. On Sunday, frequent snowfall is expected until after midday, visibility will be poor, improving only in the afternoon. Another 5-10 cm of fresh snow is expected. At 2000m: -8 degrees; at 3000m: -12 degrees. In outlying terrain at high altitudes, westerly to northwesterly winds will reach peaks of 60-80 km/hr.

## Tendency

On Monday, no significant change is expected. Fresh snowdrifts remain the biggest danger.

## Danger Level 3 - Considerable



### Avoid wind-loaded terrain

#### Danger assessment

Avalanche danger above the treeline is moderate. The main problem is freshly generated snowdrift accumulations which can trigger a small, and in isolated cases also a medium-sized slab avalanche even by minimum additional loading. Danger zones for slab avalanches occur particularly in NW/N/SE facing slopes and in steep ridgeline terrain. Above 2400m an avalanche which is unleashed on the surface can fracture down to deeper layers inside the old snowpack. In very steep, unstructured terrain below 2200m, isolated naturally triggered glide-snow avalanches can unleash. Avoid all terrain below glide cracks.

#### Snowpack

Fresh snow and snowdrifts blanket an unfavourable snowbase of surface hoar and faceted layers particularly on shady, wind-protected slopes. At high and high-alpine altitudes there are also snowdrifts which were generated recently by southerly foehn winds as well as by W/NW winds which are prone to triggering. The old snowpack fundament on shady, high altitude slopes is weakened by layers of faceted crystals. The snow is distributed highly irregularly, ridges are often windblown, and the fresh snow does not cover the ground sufficiently. On very steep grassy slopes the snowpack can glide over the smooth ground.

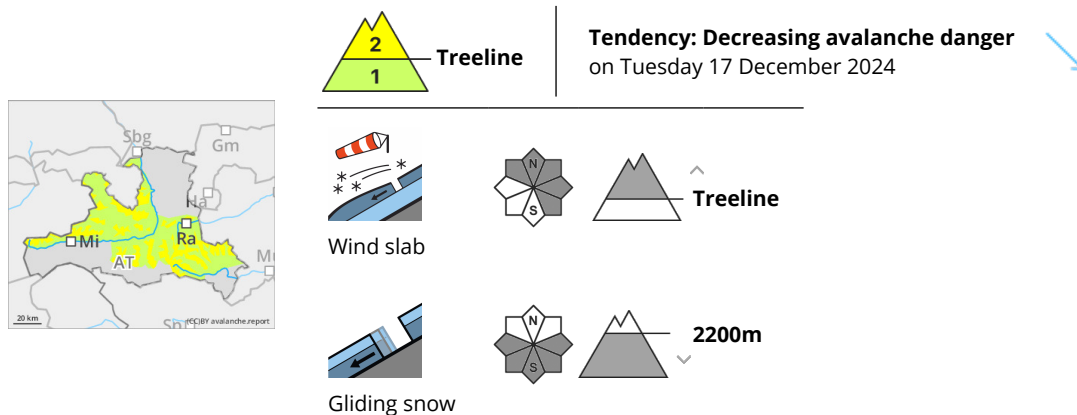
#### Weather

On Saturday night, up to 10 cm of fresh snowfall is anticipated. Strong - and in exposed terrain even storm-strength winds - from west to northwest will transport the fresh snow in irregular fashion. On Sunday, frequent snowfall is expected until after midday, visibility will be poor, improving only in the afternoon. Another 5-10 cm of fresh snow is expected. At 2000m: -8 degrees; at 3000m: -12 degrees. In outlying terrain at high altitudes, westerly to northwesterly winds will reach peaks of 60-80 km/hr.

#### Tendency

On Monday, no significant change is expected. Moderate snowdrift problem above the treeline.

## Danger Level 2 - Moderate



### Avoid wind-loaded terrain

#### Danger assessment

Avalanche danger above the treeline is moderate. The main problem is freshly generated snowdrift accumulations which can trigger a small, and in isolated cases also a medium-sized slab avalanche even by minimum additional loading. Danger zones for slab avalanches occur particularly in NW/N/SE facing slopes and in steep ridgeline terrain. Above 2400m an avalanche which is unleashed on the surface can fracture down to deeper layers inside the old snowpack. In very steep, unstructured terrain below 2200m, isolated naturally triggered glide-snow avalanches can unleash. Avoid all terrain below glide cracks.

#### Snowpack

Fresh snow and snowdrifts blanket an unfavourable snowbase of surface hoar and faceted layers particularly on shady, wind-protected slopes. At high and high-alpine altitudes there are also snowdrifts which were generated recently by southerly foehn winds as well as by W/NW winds which are prone to triggering. The old snowpack fundament on shady, high altitude slopes is weakened by layers of faceted crystals. The snow is distributed highly irregularly, ridges are often windblown, and the fresh snow does not cover the ground sufficiently. On very steep grassy slopes the snowpack can glide over the smooth ground.

#### Weather

On Saturday night, up to 10 cm of fresh snowfall is anticipated. Strong - and in exposed terrain even storm-strength winds - from west to northwest will transport the fresh snow in irregular fashion. On Sunday, frequent snowfall is expected until after midday, visibility will be poor, improving only in the afternoon. Another 5-10 cm of fresh snow is expected. At 2000m: -8 degrees; at 3000m: -12 degrees. In outlying terrain at high altitudes, westerly to northwesterly winds will reach peaks of 60-80 km/hr.

#### Tendency

On Monday, no significant change is expected. Moderate snowdrift problem above the treeline.

## Danger Level 1 - Low



**Tendency: Constant avalanche danger** →  
on Tuesday 17 December 2024



Wind slab



Treeline

**Avalanche danger is generally low, but isolated danger zones occur due to freshly generated snowdrift accumulations.**

### Danger assessment

Avalanche danger is low. Danger zones due to fresh snowdrifts occur above the treeline on N/SE facing slopes behind protruberances in the landscape and in steep gullies and bowls. These can be trigger a small slab avalanche in isolated cases even by minimum additional loading.

### Snowpack

The small amount of fresh fallen snow and fresh snowdrifts often blanket surface hoar or else faceted old snow and can be prone to triggering. The snow base is often quite shallow and in isolated cases is weakened by faceted layers on shady high-alpine slopes.

### Weather

On Saturday night, up to 10 cm of fresh snowfall is anticipated. Strong - and in exposed terrain even storm-strength winds - from west to northwest will transport the fresh snow in irregular fashion. On Sunday, frequent snowfall is expected until after midday, visibility will be poor, improving only in the afternoon. Another 5-10 cm of fresh snow is expected. At 2000m: -8 degrees. Northwesterly winds will reach peaks of 50-80 km/hr.

### Tendency

On Monday, no significant change is expected.