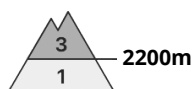


Danger Level 3 - Considerable



Tendency: Increasing avalanche danger
on Monday 23 December 2024



Wind slab



Persistent
weak layer



Circumvent snowdrift accumulations. Caution: persistent weak layer.

Danger assessment

As a result of fresh snow and increasingly stormy winds, wide-reaching snowdrift accumulations have been generated particularly in gullies and bowls and behind protruberances in the landscape. These drifts can be triggered easily by one single skier, or trigger naturally, in all aspects above 2200m. Avalanches can fracture down to more deeply embedded layers inside the snowpack on shady slopes in particular, and then grow to larger size. Whumpf noises and glide-cracks when the snowpack is tread upon are indicators of danger. Frequency and size of danger zones tend to increase with ascending altitude.

Snowpack

Danger patterns

dp.6: cold, loose snow and wind

dp.1: deep persistent weak layer

Since Friday there has been 15-20cm of fresh snow along the Salzburg border. In the afternoon, 10-15 cm of fresh snow is anticipated. Moderate winds will transport the fresh snow. The cold fresh snow and fresh snowdrifts which lie deposited particularly in gullies, bowls and behind irregularities in the landscape, lie atop a weak old snowpack surface in all aspects above 2200m. Inside the old snowpack on shady wind-protected slopes there are faceted, expansively metamorphosed layers, particularly above 2200m. Naturally triggered and artificially triggered avalanches have brought to light the unfavorable snowpack layering. The snowpack is highly irregular over small areas.

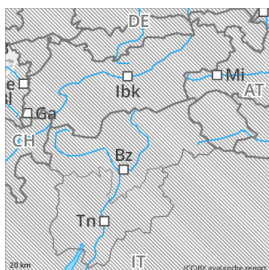
Weather

The Main Tauern Ridge will be subjected to barrier cloud accumulations from the north which will bring snowfall. A moderate westerly wind will be blowing, stronger at high altitudes. At 3000m: -9 degrees; at 2000m: -5 degrees; at 1000m: 0 degrees.

Tendency

Avalanche danger levels are increasing.

Danger Level 3 - Considerable



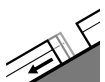
Tendency: Increasing avalanche danger
on Monday 23 December 2024



Wind slab



Treeline

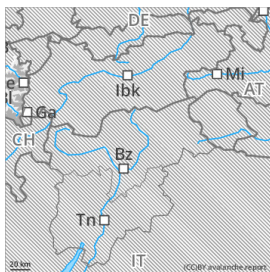


Gliding snow



Freshly generated snowdrifts require attentiveness.

Danger Level 3 - Considerable



Tendency: Increasing avalanche danger
on Monday 23 December 2024



Wind slab



Treeline



Persistent
weak layer



2200m

Fresh snowdrifts are the main danger

Danger Level 3 - Considerable



Treeline



Wind slab



Treeline



New snow



At high altitudes slab avalanches can grow to large size.

Danger assessment

Avalanche danger above the treeline is considerable, below that altitude avalanche danger is low. The main problem: fresh and older snowdrifts. In some places, slab avalanches can be triggered even by minimum additional loading; at high altitudes, isolated slabs can be large. Avalanche prone locations are found adjacent to and distant from ridges in steep terrain in NW/W/S aspects as well as in wind-loaded gullies and bowls. At high altitudes, avalanches can fracture down to weak layers embedded in the old snow. Where precipitation is heaviest, in addition small to medium-sized loose snow avalanches can trigger naturally in extremely steep terrain.

Snowpack

Due to strong westerly winds and the onset of snowfall the snow will be transported. Intermediate layers that are prone to triggering can be embedded in the fresh snowdrift accumulations. In leeward areas the old snowpack is in many places superficially moist and homogenous. Here and there, large faceted crystals have formed underneath near-surface melt-freeze crusts. More deeply embedded in the snowpack there are also soft expansively metamorphosed layers close to crusts at high altitudes.

Tendency

Rising avalanche danger due to continuing snowfall and wind.

Danger Level 3 - Considerable



Treeline

Tendency: Increasing avalanche danger
on Monday 23 December 2024


Wind slab



Treeline

Persistent
weak layer

2200m

Snowdrifts are the main problem. Slab avalanches in the snowdrifts can fracture in ground-level layers

Danger assessment

Avalanche danger above the treeline is considerable, below that altitude danger is low. Slab avalanches of medium size can in some places be triggered even by minimum additional loading, i.e. the weight of one person, especially in gullies and bowls and behind irregularities in the landscape on NW/N/SE facing slopes. In high alpine places the danger zones are possible in all aspects in gullies and bowls. In some places above 2200m they can fracture down to deeper weak layers in the old snow and thereby grow to large size. Settling noises and glide-cracks are indicators of imminent danger. Isolated naturally triggered avalanches are also possible at high altitudes. Snowdrift accumulations are difficult to recognize due to poor visibility. As a result of rain impact at intermediate altitudes, small naturally triggered wet-snow slides and glide-snow avalanches are possible.

Snowpack

The fresh fallen snow has been heftily transported. Inside the fresh snow and drifts, weak layers are forming near the surface (graupel and decomposed snow), bonding is generally good. Above 2000m the fresh snow and drifts have often been deposited atop faceted crystals near crusts, in some places surface hoar has been blanketed on shady, wind-protected slopes above the treeline. Deeper down inside the old snowpack fundament there are soft layers lodged between hard layers at high altitudes. At low and intermediate altitudes the old snowpack beneath the fresh fallen snow is melt-freeze encrusted. The entire snowpack can start to glide over steep rock plates or grassy slopes. The fresh fallen snow has been heftily transported. Inside the fresh snow, short-lived weak layers are forming near the surface. At low and intermediate altitudes the old snowpack is generally well consolidated. Above 2000m the fresh snow and drifts are often faceted near crusts. In some places on shady wind-protected slopes above the treeline, surface hoar has formed. The entire snowpack can glide over steep rock plates or grassy slopes. The fresh fallen snow has been heftily transported. Inside the fresh snow, short-lived weak layers are forming near the surface. At high altitudes the fresh snow is falling atop a generally wind-compressed snowpack surface

where the bonding is good. Above 2000m the fresh snow and drifts have often been deposited atop faceted crystals near crusts, in some places surface hoar has been blanketed on shady, wind-protected slopes above the treeline. Deeper down inside the old snowpack fundament there are soft layers lodged between hard layers at high altitudes. At low and intermediate altitudes the old snowpack beneath the fresh fallen snow is melt-freeze encrusted. The entire snowpack can start to glide over steep rock plates or grassy slopes.

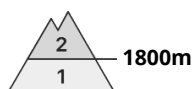
Weather

On Saturday morning, mostly light clouds and good visibility with intermittent sunshine. In the afternoon, dense clouds will move in, fog at higher altitudes. Winds will be light to moderate, mostly westerly. At 2000m: from -9 to 6 degrees; at 3000m: -11 degrees. On Saturday night cloud cover will become more dense, after midnight initial showers can set in, snowfall level at 1500m.

Tendency

On Sunday, fresh snowfall and winds will lead to increasing avalanche danger levels.

Danger Level 2 - Moderate

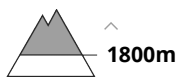


Tendency: Constant avalanche danger →

on Monday 23 December 2024



Wind slab



Evaluate snowdrift accumulations on shady slopes with great caution

Danger assessment

Due to fresh snowfall and increasingly stormy winds, far-reaching snowdrift accumulations are being generated, particularly on shady slopes above 1800m: easily triggered or triggering naturally. Gullies and bowls are unfavorable, since weak layers are evident inside the old snow. Avalanches are sometimes medium-sized. Apart from the risk of being buried in snow masses, you also need to take the dangers of being swept along and forced to take a fall into consideration on extremely steep slopes. In addition, some small loose-snow avalanches can be expected especially at the foot of rock cliffs on extremely steep sunny slopes.

Snowpack

Danger patterns

dp.1: deep persistent weak layer

Since Friday there has been up to 25cm of fresh snow along the Salzburg border, locally more. The often strong winds have transported the fresh snowfall. Snowdrift accumulations cover a weak old snowpack surface on shady slopes above 1800m. The old snowpack is faceted and expansively metamorphosed. The snowpack is highly irregular even over small areas.

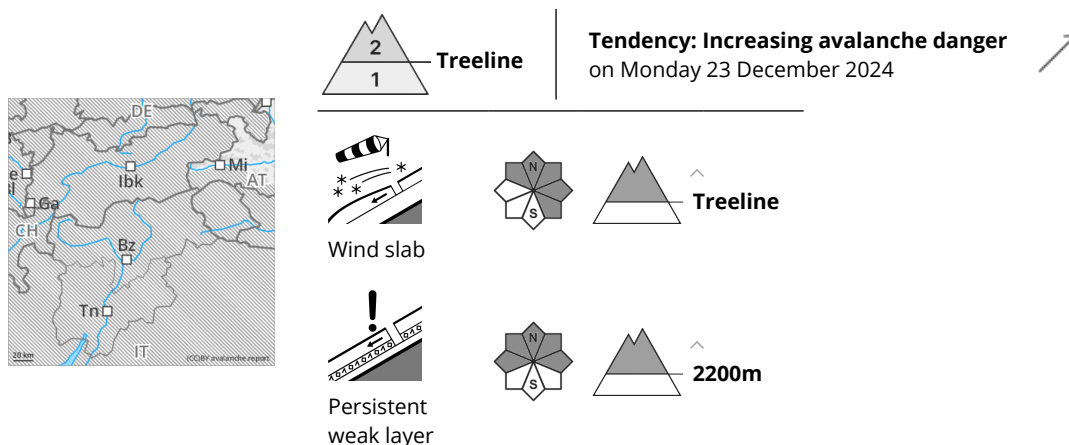
Weather

On Sunday, cloudbanks will repeatedly pass through. As of midday, the clouds will become denser and in late afternoon a few snow showers will pass through. Moderate westerly to southwesterly winds will be blowing. At 2000m: -5 degrees; at 1000m: 0 degrees.

Tendency

Avalanche danger levels are not expected to change significantly.

Danger Level 2 - Moderate



Freshly generated snowdrifts require attentiveness

Danger assessment

Avalanche danger levels above the treeline are moderate, below that altitude danger is low. Snowdrifts are the major problem. Slab avalanches of medium size can be triggered even by minimum additional loading, particularly near to ridgelines on N/E/SW facing slopes. Danger zones are difficult to recognize due to diffuse light conditions. Avalanche danger above the treeline is considerable, below that altitude danger is low. Snowdrift accumulations are the main problem. Slab avalanches of medium size can in some places be triggered even by minimum additional loading, i.e. the weight of one person. In some places above 2200m they can fracture down to deeper weak layers in the old snow and thereby grow to large size. Danger zones can be difficult to recognize due to diffuse light conditions. They occur also distant from ridgelines and on slopes in NW/N/SE aspects. On the Main Alpine Ridge, danger zones occur in all aspects. In some places, the snowdrifts have been blanketed over, making them difficult to recognize. Avalanche danger above the treeline is considerable, below that altitude danger is low. Snowdrift accumulations are the main problem. Slab avalanches of medium size can in some places be triggered even by minimum additional loading, i.e. the weight of one person. In some places above 2200m they can fracture down to deeper weak layers in the old snow and thereby grow to large size. Danger zones can be difficult to recognize due to diffuse light conditions. They occur also distant from ridgelines and on slopes in NW/N/SE aspects. On the Main Alpine Ridge, danger zones occur in all aspects. In some places, the snowdrifts have been blanketed over, making them difficult to recognize.

Snowpack

The fresh fallen snow has been heftily transported. Inside the fresh snow, short-lived weak layers are forming near the surface. At low and intermediate altitudes the old snowpack is generally well consolidated. Above 2000m the fresh snow and drifts are often faceted near crusts. In some places on shady wind-protected slopes above the treeline, surface hoar has formed. The entire snowpack can glide over steep rock plates or grassy slopes. The fresh fallen snow has been heftily transported. Inside the fresh snow, short-lived weak layers are forming near the surface. At high altitudes the fresh snow is falling atop a

generally wind-compressed snowpack surface where the bonding is good. Above 2000m the fresh snow and drifts have often been deposited atop faceted crystals near crusts, in some places surface hoar has been blanketed on shady, wind-protected slopes above the treeline. Deeper down inside the old snowpack fundament there are soft layers lodged between hard layers at high altitudes. At low and intermediate altitudes the old snowpack beneath the fresh fallen snow is melt-freeze encrusted. The entire snowpack can start to glide over steep rock plates or grassy slopes.

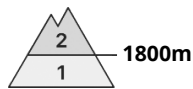
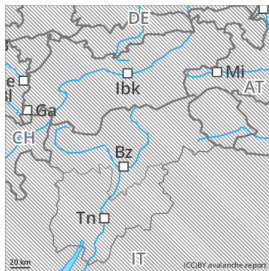
Weather

On Saturday morning, mostly light clouds and good visibility with intermittent sunshine. In the afternoon, dense clouds will move in, fog at higher altitudes. Winds will be light to moderate, mostly westerly. At 2000m: from -9 to 6 degrees; at 3000m: -11 degrees. On Saturday night cloud cover will become more dense, after midnight initial showers can set in, snowfall level at 1500m.

Tendency

On Sunday, fresh snowfall and winds will lead to increasing avalanche danger levels.

Danger Level 2 - Moderate

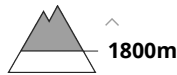


Tendency: Constant avalanche danger →

on Monday 23 December 2024



Wind slab



Fresh snowdrift!

Danger assessment

Moderate avalanche danger above 1.800 m. Wind slab problem! The new snow and the snowdrift covers danger spots. The danger spots are located in the sectors north to southeast. In the beginning of gullies and bowls an individual person can trigger a slab avalanche which can have a size of 1 to 2.

Snowpack

Till Sunday evening around 20 cm new snow is expected. The new snow and the snowdrift covers a soft layer from Friday above the tree line. Potential weak layers are found within the driftsnow layer and at the transition to the old snow cover.

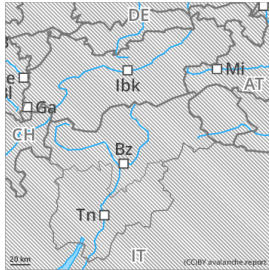
Weather

A coldfront from northwest brings clouds which cause poor visibility and snow. In the morning it can rain below 1.200 m. During the course of the day the snow line sinks to the valleys. In the afternoon and evening snow is also in the south possible. Increasingly strong westerly winds. Temperatures at noon are around -3 degrees in 2.000 m.

Tendency

Slab avalanche danger in high altitudes doesn't change.

Danger Level 2 - Moderate



Tendency: Constant avalanche danger →
on Monday 23 December 2024

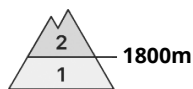


Wind slab



Treeline

Danger Level 2 - Moderate

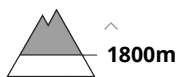


Tendency: Constant avalanche danger →

on Monday 23 December 2024



Wind slab



Evaluate freshly generated snowdrift accumulations on shady slopes with great caution.

Danger assessment

Due to fresh snowfall and increasingly stormy winds, far-reaching snowdrift accumulations are being generated, particularly on shady slopes above 1800m: easily triggered or triggering naturally. Avalanches are mostly small-sized.

Snowpack

Danger patterns

dp.6: cold, loose snow and wind

Up to 20cm of fresh snow was registered, locally more. The often storm-strength winds have intensively transported the snow. The fresh snowdrift accumulations blanket a weak old snowpack surface on shady slopes above 1800m. The old snowpack is faceted. The snowpack is highly irregular, even over small areas.

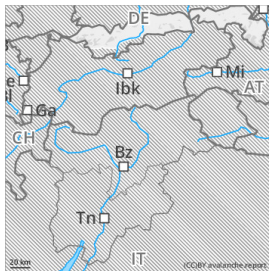
Weather

On Sunday, cloudbanks will repeatedly pass through. As of midday, the clouds will become denser and in late afternoon a few snow showers will pass through. Moderate westerly to southwesterly winds will be blowing. At 2000m: -5 degrees; at 1000m: 0 degrees.

Tendency

Avalanche danger levels are not expected to change significantly.

Danger Level 2 - Moderate



Wind slab



Treeline

Ten to maximally 20 centimeters of new snow accompanied by wind

Danger assessment

Avalanche danger above the treeline is moderate, below that altitude avalanche danger is low. Main problem: snowdrifts. In some places, slab avalanches can be triggered even by minimum additional loading and can be medium-sized. Avalanche prone locations are found adjacent to and distant from ridges in steep terrain in NW/W/S aspects as well as in wind-loaded gullies and bowls. At high altitudes, avalanches can fracture down to weak layers embedded in the old snow.

Snowpack

Due to strong westerly winds and the onset of snowfall the snow will be transported. Intermediate layers that are prone to triggering can be embedded in the fresh snowdrift accumulations. In leeward areas the old snowpack is in many places superficially moist and homogenous. Here and there, large faceted crystals have formed underneath near-surface melt-freeze crusts. More deeply embedded in the snowpack there are also soft expansively metamorphosed layers close to crusts at high altitudes.

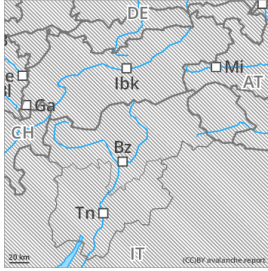
Weather

Rising avalanche danger due to continuing snowfall and wind.

Tendency

Due to strong westerly winds and the onset of snowfall the snow will be transported. Intermediate layers that are prone to triggering can be embedded in the fresh snowdrift accumulations. In leeward areas the old snowpack is in many places superficially moist and homogenous. Here and there, large faceted crystals have formed underneath near-surface melt-freeze crusts. More deeply embedded in the snowpack there are also soft expansively metamorphosed layers close to crusts at high altitudes.

Danger Level 1 - Low



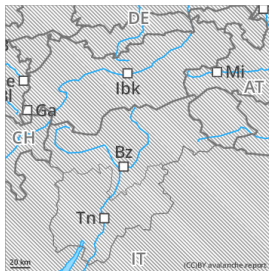
Tendency: Constant avalanche danger →
on Monday 23 December 2024



Wind slab



Danger Level 1 - Low



Tendency: Constant avalanche danger →
on Monday 23 December 2024



Wind slab



New snow and snowdrift in high altitudes!

Danger assessment

Low avalanche danger. A little more danger spots formed due to snowdrift. These are located in gullies and bowls above 1.800 m mainly in the sector east. Slab avalanches can be triggered by high additional loads.

Snowpack

In the southern mountains and in northeast Styria the snow base is still thin. The new snow landed on surface hoar - on the sunny side on grass. The snow base is thin and shows no significant weak layers. Blown off areas are hard and icy.

Weather

A coldfront from northwest brings clouds which cause poor visibility and snow. In the morning it can rain below 1.200 m. During the course of the day the snow line sinks to the valleys. In the afternoon and evening snow is also in the south possible. Increasingly strong westerly winds. Temperatures at noon are around -3 degrees in 2.000 m.

Tendency

No significant change of the avalanche danger.