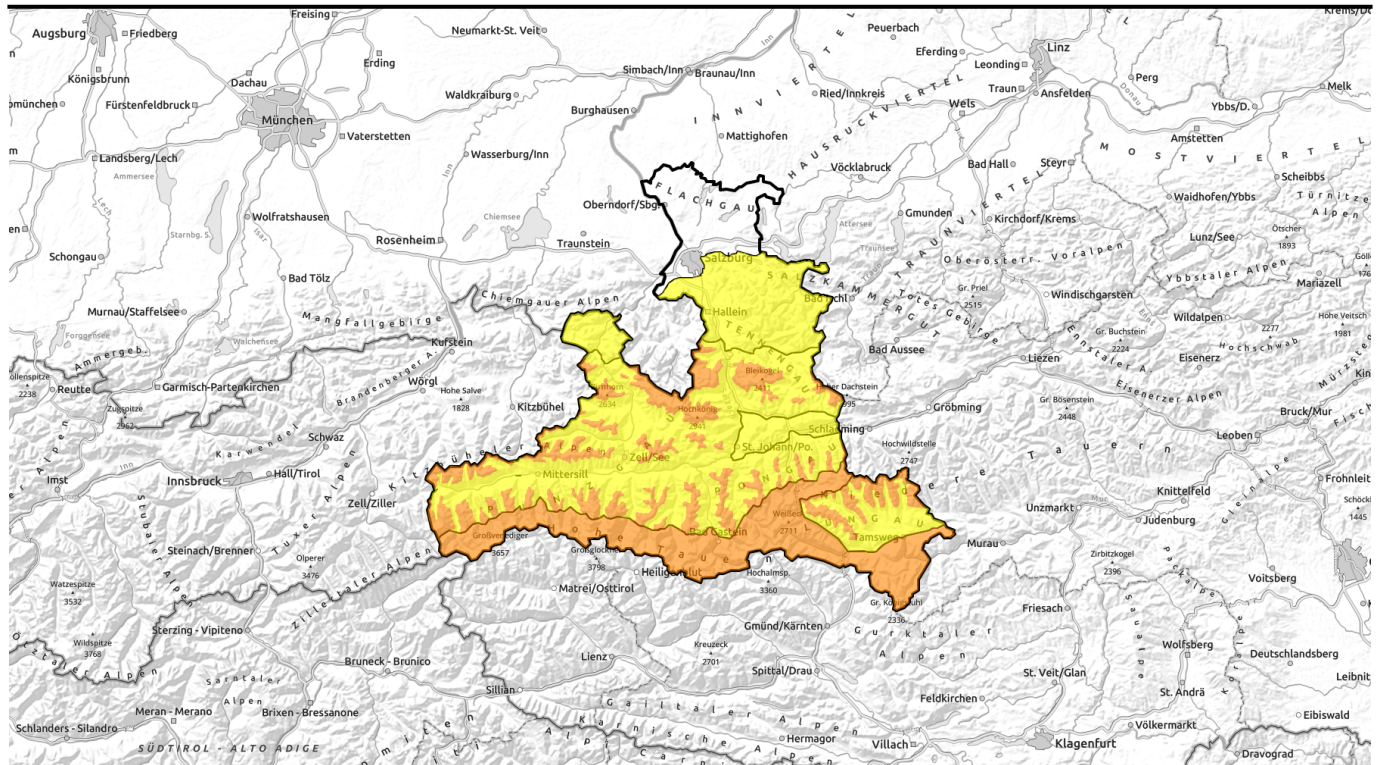


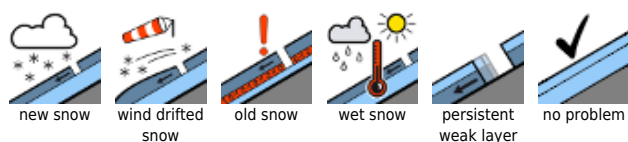
**23.01.2021**



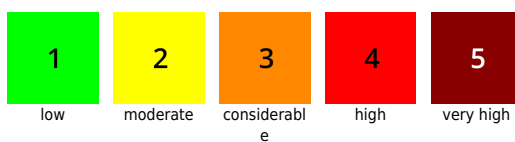
## Treacherous situation for winter sports enthusiasts in many regions

	<p>Chiemgauer Alpen, Heutal, Reiteralpe, Untersbergstock, Osterhorngruppe, Gamsfeldgruppe, Pongauer Grasberge</p>		
	<p>forestline</p>	<p>Niedere Tauern Nord, Goldberggruppe Nord, Glocknergruppe Nord, Großvenedigergruppe Nord, Oberpinzgauer Grasberge, Kitzbüheler Alpen, Glemmtal, Dientner Grasberge, Steinernes Meer, Hochkönig, Hagengebirge, Göllstock, Loferer und Leoganger Steinberge, Tennengebirge, Gosaukamm, Niedere Tauern Süd</p>	
	<p>Großvenedigergruppe Alpenhauptkamm, Glocknergruppe Alpenhauptkamm, Goldberggruppe Alpenhauptkamm, Niedere Tauern Alpenhauptkamm, Ankogelgruppe, Muhr, Nockberge</p>		

### Avalanche problems



### Danger ratings

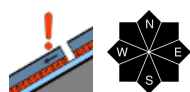


### Expositions

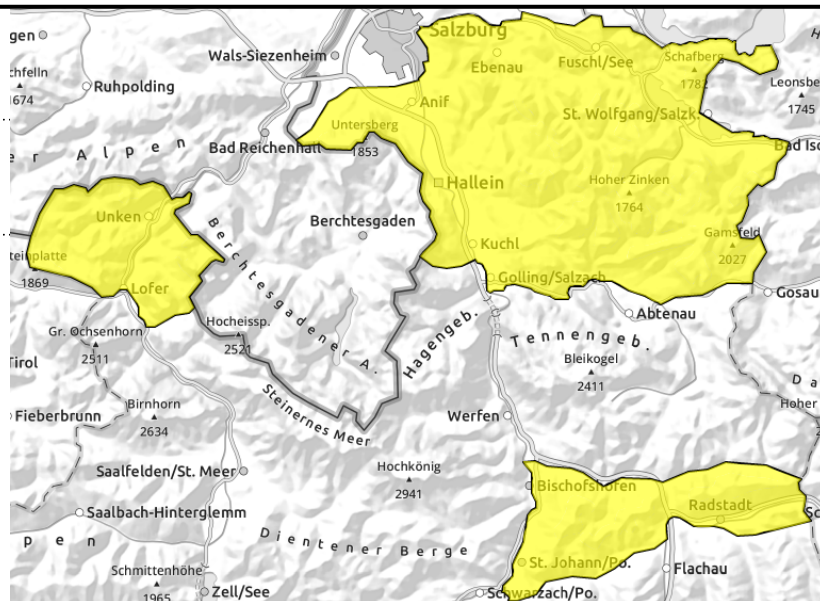


**23.01.2021**

**Chiemgauer Alpen, Heutal, Reiteralpe, Untersbergstock, Osterhorngruppe, Gamsfeldgruppe, Pongauer Grasberge**



above treeline triggerable in transitions from shallow to deep snow, avoid extremely steep slopes



## Old-snow problem demands smart paths

**Triggering slab avalanches is possible on isolated steep slopes above the treeline, particularly by large additional loading** (one person on foot, standing together, falling, a group). Potential avalanche prone locations are found increasingly on NW-NE-SE facing slopes but also in other aspects. Transitions from shallow to deep snow are shallow-snow zones are quite treacherous. Triggered avalanches are small-to-medium.

### Snowpack structure

The cold fresh fallen snow (5-10 cm generally) covers an extremely varied base. On south-facing slopes the base is a melt-freeze crust. On north-facing slopes the snowpack is often still groundless. Dominating the present situation are the soft, weak layers of faceted, granular snow inside the relatively shallow snowpack. These layers were responsible for the avalanches which released this week and for the unfavourable stability tests.

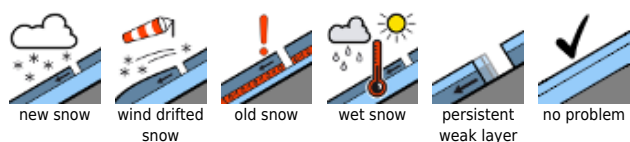
### Weather

On Saturday, clouds will dominate; in the afternoon visibility will improve, but diffuse light conditions will prevail. In the morning hours, moderate snowfall is expected, slackening off by midday (5-10 cm). Initially, brisk westerly winds. Temperatures dropping measurably: at 2000 m, to -8 degrees.

### Outlook

No significant change. Old-snow problem will remain dominant, demands much experience.

#### Avalanche problems



#### Danger ratings

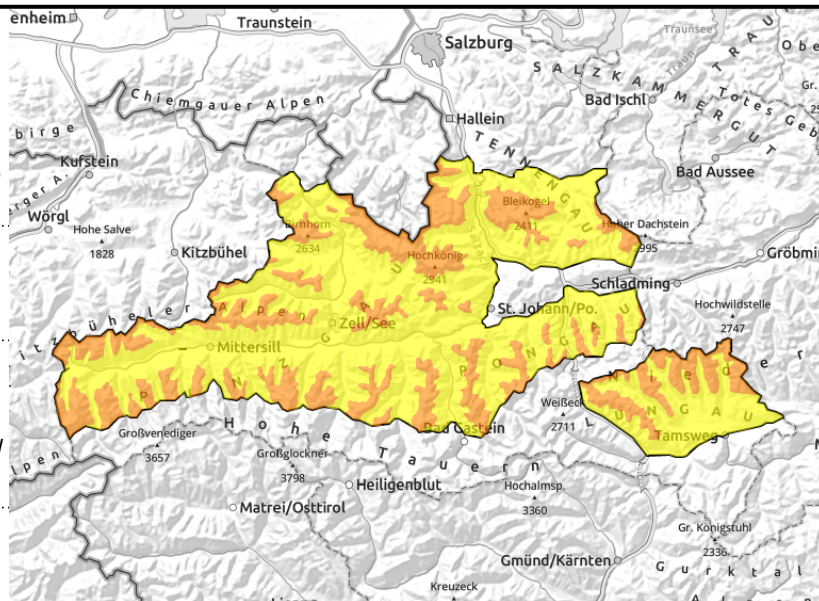


#### Expositions



**23.01.2021**

**Niedere Tauern Nord, Goldberggruppe Nord, Glocknergruppe Nord, Großvenedigergruppe Nord, Oberpinzgauer Grasberge, Kitzbüheler Alpen, Glemmtal, Dientner Grasberge, Steinernes Meer, Hochkönig, Hagengebirge, Göllstock, Loferer und Leoganger Steinberge, Tennengebirge, Gosaukamm, Niedere Tauern Süd**



forestline



above treeline, triggerable in transitions from shallow to deep snow and in shallow-snow zones, avoid steep zones



near to ridgelines, small snowdrift masses, mostly thin

## Old-snow problem demands restraint and experience

**Triggering a slab avalanche is possible on numerous steep slopes, even the weight of one singular skier is sufficient.** Potential danger points are found increasingly on NW-NE-SE facing slopes, but also in other aspects. Transitions from shallow to deep snow are delicate. Triggered slabs can grow to medium, in isolated cases also to large-sized avalanches.

### Snowpack structure

The cold fresh snow (mostly 10-15 cm) covers a highly varied base. On south-facing slopes the base is a melt-freeze crust up to 2000 m. On wind-exposed slopes the base is hard and windblown. On north-facing slopes there are snowdrift masses (not firm) near ridgelines generated by the foehn of recent days. On shady north-facing slopes the snowpack is often still groundless. Dominating the present situation are the soft weak layers of faceted, granular crystals inside the relatively shallow snowpack. These were responsible for the numerous avalanches of this week.

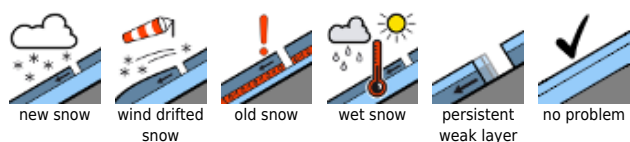
### Weather

On Saturday, clouds and fog will dominate. From the early morning, a few hours of moderate snowfall, easing in late morning, nearly ending in the afternoon (10-15 cm, more from place to place). Brisk winds initially, but most of the snowfall will be without wind impact. Temperatures will drop noticeably: at 2000 m to -8 degrees.

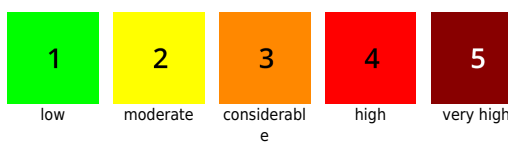
### Outlook

Caution and restraint continue to be imperative above the treeline. Main risk remains the old-snow problem, i.e. the old, persistent weak layers inside the snowpack.

#### Avalanche problems



#### Danger ratings



#### Expositions



**23.01.2021**

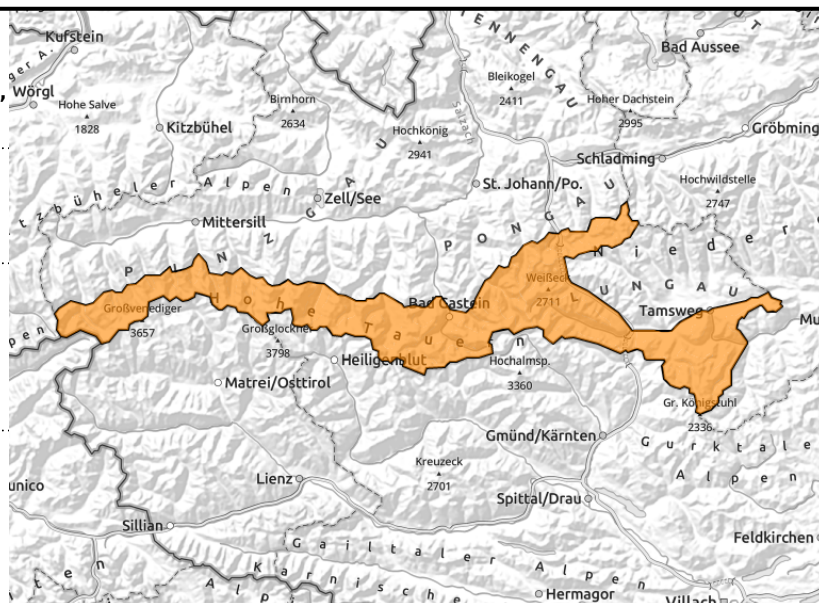
**Großvenedigergruppe Alpenhauptkamm, Glocknergruppe Alpenhauptkamm, Goldberggruppe Alpenhauptkamm, Niedere Tauern Alpenhauptkamm, Ankogelgruppe, Muhr, Nockberge**



near to and distant from ridgelines, behind protruberances, at forest edges, in gullies, steep bowls



above treeline, triggerable in transitions from shallow to deep snow, in shallow-snow zones



## Unfavourable mixture: fresh snow + wind, old-snow problem lurks below

**Avalanche prone locations are numerous, not easy to recognize even for an experienced backcountry skier.** Therefore, on Saturday: **AVOID very steep slopes.** Most danger zones occur in W-N-SE aspects, near to and distant from ridgelines, particularly behind protruberances (snowdrifts). Second problem, apart from snowdrifts: the edges of shallow snow zones, i.e. entries into windblown combs and ridges and rocky steep terrain (old-snow problem). There, a skier can trigger a “hidden” weak layer even by the weight of one person. Small superficial releases can fracture down to deeper layers in the snowpack, **thereby grow to medium-to-large size.** Isolated naturally triggered avalanches are possible in very steep, heavily wind-loaded terrain.

### Snowpack structure

The cold fresh snow and drifts (30 cm) are not bonding well with the base, cover a highly varied fundament. On north-facing slopes at forest edges and in gullies and bowls, the unconsolidated foehn-induced drifts of the last two days lie deposited. Elsewhere, much terrain is windblown and hard beneath the fresh snow. Deeper in the snowpack - and this is crucial - are soft, weak layers of faceted, granular snow in transition zones where the snow is shallow. Precisely these were responsible for the avalanches of this last week.

### Weather

On Saturday, clouds and fog will dominate. Snowfall will be intensive for 2 hours in early morning, then ease off, slackening further in the afternoon. New snow expected: 30 cm, on the Carinthian border about 40 cm. Strong-velocity winds initially, southerly in some places, later northwesterly. Temperatures dropping noticeably: at 2000 m, to -8 degrees; at 3000 m, to -13 degrees.

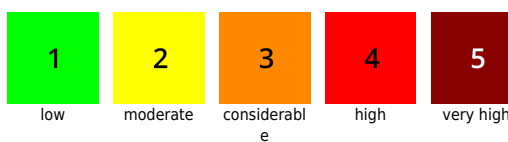
### Outlook

Treacherous conditions also on Sunday. Main themes: fresh snowdrifts and the persistent old-snow problem, i.e. old and enduring weak layers inside the snowpack.

#### Avalanche problems



#### Danger ratings



#### Expositions

