













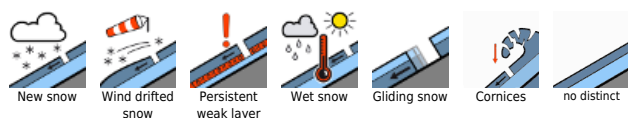


Persistent-weak-layer problem at high-alpine altitudes on steep sunny slopes

	Dientner Grasberge, Pongauer Grasberge, Kitzbüheler Alpen, Glemmtal, Niedere Tauern Nord	 
	Nockberge	 
	2500 m Tennengebirge, Gosaukamm, Steinernes Meer, Hochkönig, Hagengebirge, Göllstock, Niedere Tauern Alpenhauptkamm, Niedere Tauern Süd, Ankogelgruppe, Muhr, Loferer und Leoganger Steinberge, Goldberggruppe Nord, Goldberggruppe Alpenhauptkamm, Glocknergruppe Alpenhauptkamm, Glocknergruppe Nord, Großvenedigergruppe Nord, Großvenedigergruppe Alpenhauptkamm, Oberpinzgauer Grasberge	   
	Osterhorngruppe, Gamsfeldgruppe, Untersbergstock, Chiemgauer Alpen, Heutal, Reiteralpe	 

Avalanche problems



Danger ratings



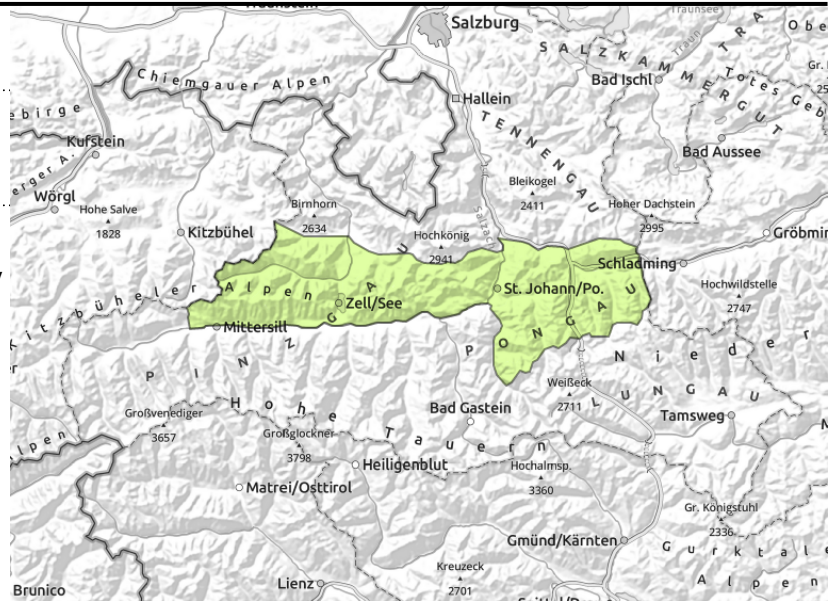
Expositions



**Dientner Grasberge, Pongauer Grasberge,
 Kitzbüheler Alpen, Glemmtal, Niedere Tauern Nord**



on extremely steep grass-covered slopes, possible at any time of day



Main problem: gliding snow

Avalanche danger is low on steep slopes. Glide-snow avalanches can trigger in all aspects at any time of day or night naturally as long as there is sufficient snow on the ground and grow to medium size, sometimes large size. Avoid zones beneath glide cracks.

Apart from gliding snow problem, the greatest danger is from taking a fall.

Snowpack structure

Due to good nocturnal outgoing radiation and dry air the snowpack was able to dry out and form a melt-freeze crust up to 1800 m, on south-facing slopes up to over 2000 m, which is capable of bearing loads. Firn snow on south-facing slopes during the daytime. On shady slopes, wind-crusted and sometimes still powder.

Above 1900 m there are small snowdrifts deposited atop a crust, easily recognized, usually well bonded with the surface, unlikely to trigger.

Due to warmth of the ground and moistness of the snowpack, increased glide-snow activity can be expected.

Weather

Star-studded skies on Tuesday night, dry air. On Wednesday, sunny weather, good for backcountry tours, though with some high-altitude cloudbanks passing through (good visibility). Only in the Osterhorn range will there be more cloud cover. Winds light to moderate, in afternoon in high-alpine regions brisk westerly winds in the Northern Alps. At 2000 m: 0 degrees; at 3000 m: -5 degrees.

Outlook

Avalanche danger levels are not expected to change significantly.

Avalanche problems



Danger ratings



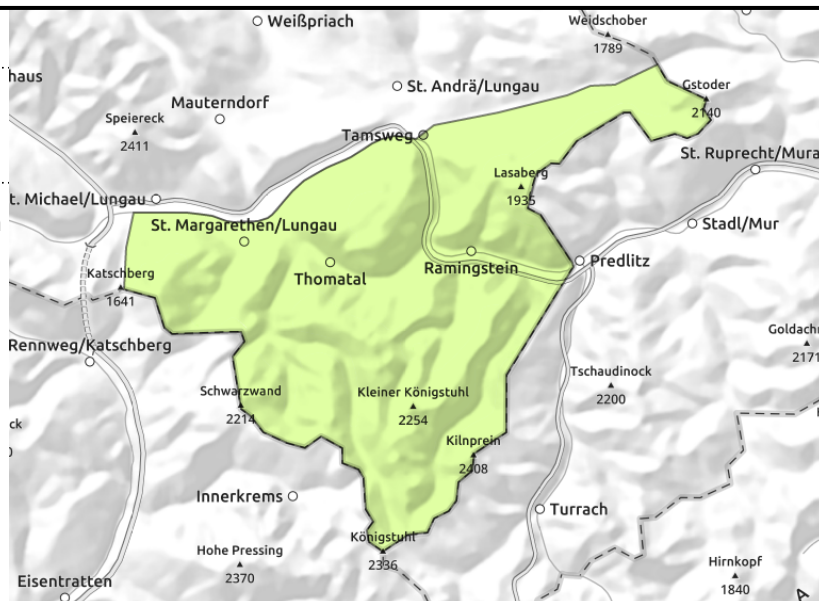
Expositions



Nockberge



small/thin snowdrift patches, in gullies, steep bowls



Danger of falling outweighs that of being buried in snow

Avalanche danger is low.

Glide-snow avalanches are a threat up to summit level. Where there is sufficient snow on the ground, large-sized releases are possible, though most are small-to-medium. Avoid zones below glide cracks.

Snowpack structure

The snowpack layering is favorable by and large.

Above 2000 m small snowdrift accumulations are unlikely to trigger.

Due to warmth of the ground and moistness of the snowpack, increased glide-snow activity can be expected.

Weather

Star-studded skies on Tuesday night, dry air. On Wednesday, sunny weather, good for backcountry tours, though with some high-altitude cloudbanks passing through (good visibility). Only in the Osterhorn range will there be more cloud cover. Winds light to moderate, in afternoon in high-alpine regions brisk westerly winds in the Northern Alps. At 2000 m: 0 degrees; at 3000 m: -5 degrees.

Outlook

Avalanche danger levels are not expected to change significantly.

Avalanche problems



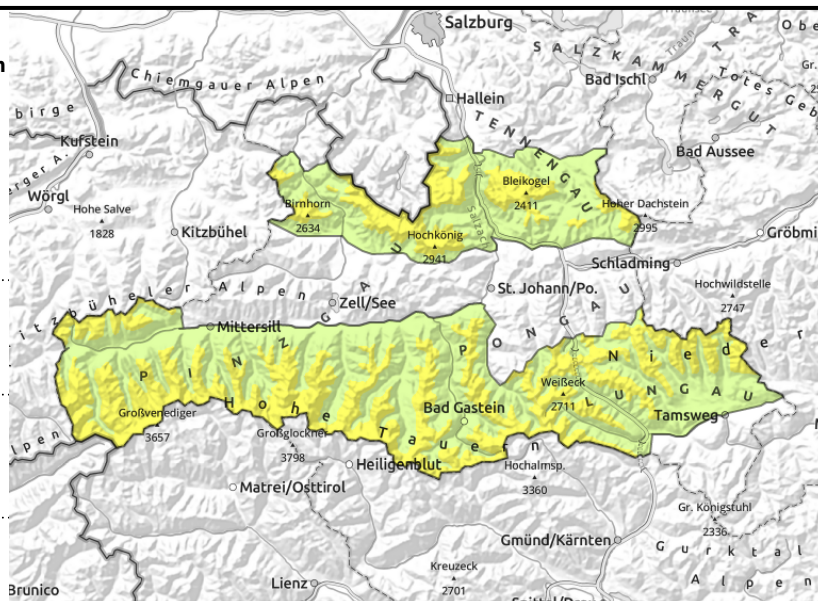
Danger ratings



Expositions



Tennengebirge, Gosaukamm, Steinernes Meer, Hochkönig, Hagengebirge, Göllstock, Niedere Tauern Alpenhauptkamm, Niedere Tauern Süd, Ankogelgruppe, Muhr, Loferer und Leoganger Steinberge, Goldberggruppe Nord, Goldberggruppe Alpenhauptkamm, Glocknergruppe Alpenhauptkamm, Glocknergruppe Nord, Großvenedigergruppe Nord, Großvenedigergruppe Alpenhauptkamm, Oberpinzgauer Grasberge



2500 m



triggerable in few spots in outlying terrain



in extremely steep grass-covered terrain, isolated large avalanches possible, possible at any time of day

Isolated danger zones in old snowpack

Avalanche danger is moderate above 2500 m, low below that altitude.

In the few danger zones, weak layers in the uppermost part of the snowpack above 2500 m can be triggered by 1 person, esp. in transitions from shallow to deep snow and on steep sunny slopes. In isolated cases the releases can be large-sized.

Danger of naturally triggered glide-snow avalanches below 2600 m persists, larger sized avalanches are possible in high altitude starting zones.

Snowpack structure

The snow and snowdrifts from last week have settled lie atop faceted layers (from mid-January). Steep sunny slopes have formed a thin melt-freeze crust over this layer which has faceted crystals clinging to it. Where there is a thin crust the faceted crystals are large and constitute a weak layer in the old snow.

Beneath the fresh snow and drifts from last week is a faceted layer clinging to a melt-freeze crust (formed in mid-January) near the surface, esp. on E/S/W facing slopes above 2300 m. Firn on south-facing slopes, on shady slopes wind crusts and loose powder can be found.

Due to warmth of the ground and moistness of the snowpack, increased glide-snow activity can be expected.

Weather

Star-studded skies on Tuesday night, dry air. On Wednesday, sunny weather, good for backcountry tours, though with some high-altitude cloudbanks passing through (good visibility). Only in the Osterhorn range will there be more cloud cover. Winds light to moderate, in afternoon in high-alpine regions brisk westerly winds in the Northern Alps. At 2000 m: 0 degrees; at 3000 m: -5 degrees.

Outlook

Avalanche danger levels are not expected to change significantly.

Avalanche problems



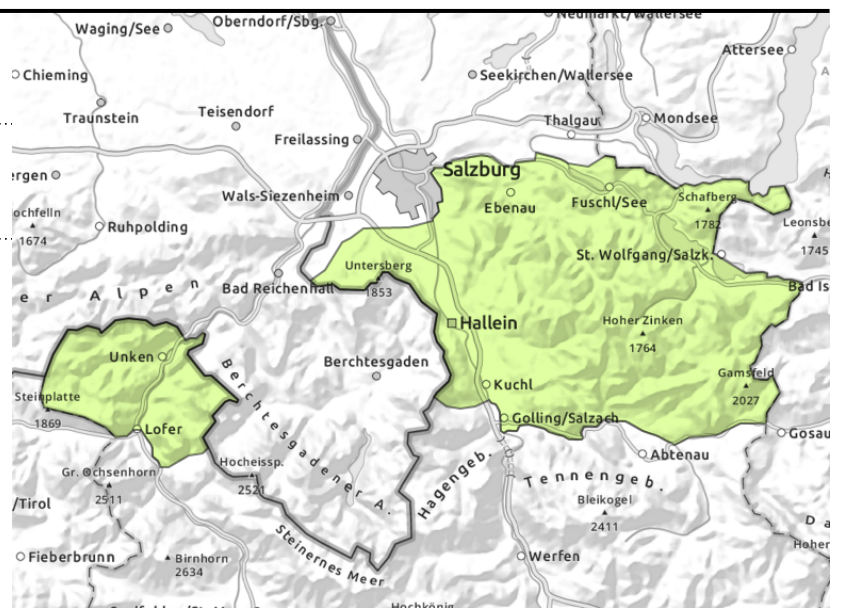
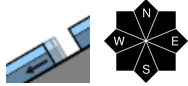
Danger ratings



Expositions



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



Isolated danger zones due to gliding snow

The avalanche situation is quite favorable in general. On very steep grass-covered slopes, small and, in isolated cases, medium-sized glide-snow avalanches are possible above 1800 m. Avoid zones below glide cracks. The danger of falling outweighs that of being buried in snow.

Snowpack structure

The snowpack is generally stable.

Due to warmth of the ground and moistness of the snowpack, increased glide-snow activity can be expected.

Weather

Star-studded skies on Tuesday night, dry air. On Wednesday, sunny weather, good for backcountry tours, though with some high-altitude cloudbanks passing through (good visibility). Only in the Osterhorn range will there be more cloud cover. Winds light to moderate, in afternoon in high-alpine regions brisk westerly winds in the Northern Alps. At 2000 m: 0 degrees; at 3000 m: -5 degrees.

Outlook

Avalanche danger levels are not expected to change significantly.

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe, www.creativtrans.com

Avalanche problems



Danger ratings



Expositions

