

Fresh snowdrifts in Northern Alps



timberline

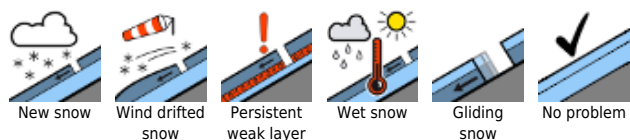
Rottenmann Tauern, Schladminger Tauern Süd, Südliche Wölzer Tauern, Seckauer Tauern, Schladminger Tauern Nord, Dachsteingebiet, Totes Gebirge, Ennstaler Alpen, Eisenerzer Alpen, Hochschwabgebiet, Mürzteger Alpen, Nördliche Wölzer Tauern



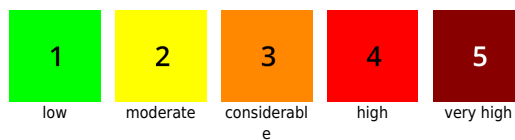
Westliche Fischbacher Alpen und Grazer Bergland, Mürztaler Alpen, Östliche Fischbacher Alpen und Wechselgebiet, Stub- und Gleinalpe, Korralpe, Seetaler Alpen, Gurktaler Alpen



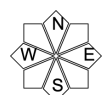
Avalanche problems



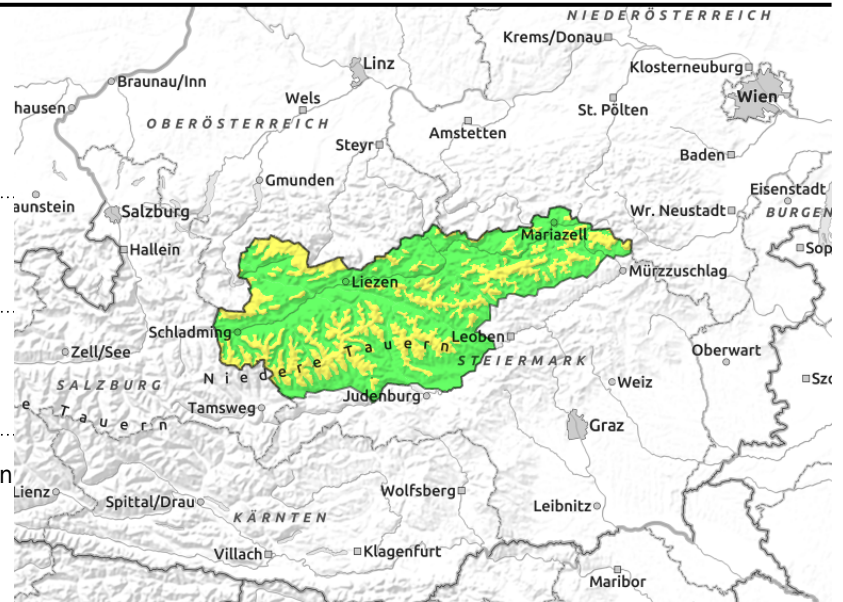
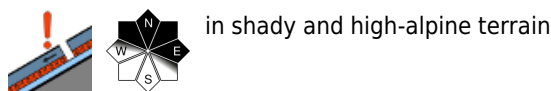
Danger ratings



Expositions



Rottenmanner Tauern, Schladminger Tauern Süd, Südliche Wölzer Tauern, Seckauer Tauern, Schladminger Tauern Nord, Dachsteingebiet, Totes Gebirge, Ennstaler Alpen, Eisenerzer Alpen, Hochschwabgebiet, Mürzsteiger Alpen, Nördliche Wölzer Tauern



Snowdrifts + persistent weak layer

New snow (appx. 10cm) and stormy winds led to fresh and instable snowdrifts accumulating on southern and eastern slopes on Monday. Avalanche prone locations which can often be triggered as slabs by low additional loading are located on leeward slopes behind protruberances, on steep slopes and at entries into gullies and bowls. Triggered avalanches are usually Size 2. On high altitude slopes in northern aspects and shady terrain (e.g. gullies) slabs can be triggered due to the persistent weak layer.

Snowpack structure

At high altitudes at hard / icy surface has formed atop which the fresh snowdrifts are being deposited. Beneath it the snowpack fundament is compact, has few weak layers which are relevant. Above the treeline on shady slopes the process of expansive metamorphosis is continuing, the snowpack evidences increasingly frequently faceted crystals, is forfeiting its firmness and losing its hold.

Weather

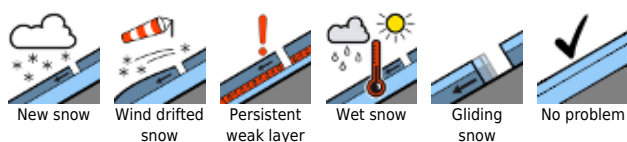
Wednesday will bring cloudless skies to most mountain regions. Winds from the northwest will intensify. From the west the temperatures will rise somewhat. At 2000 m: in Totes Gebirge at midday -4 degrees, on the Hohen Veitsch -8 degrees.

On Thursday, extensive sunshine during the morning in some regions. Cloud cover will increase hour by hour, in the afternoon there will be little sunshine left. Winds will intensify.

Outlook

Avalanche danger will decrease somewhat.

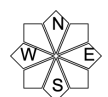
Avalanche problems



Danger ratings



Expositions

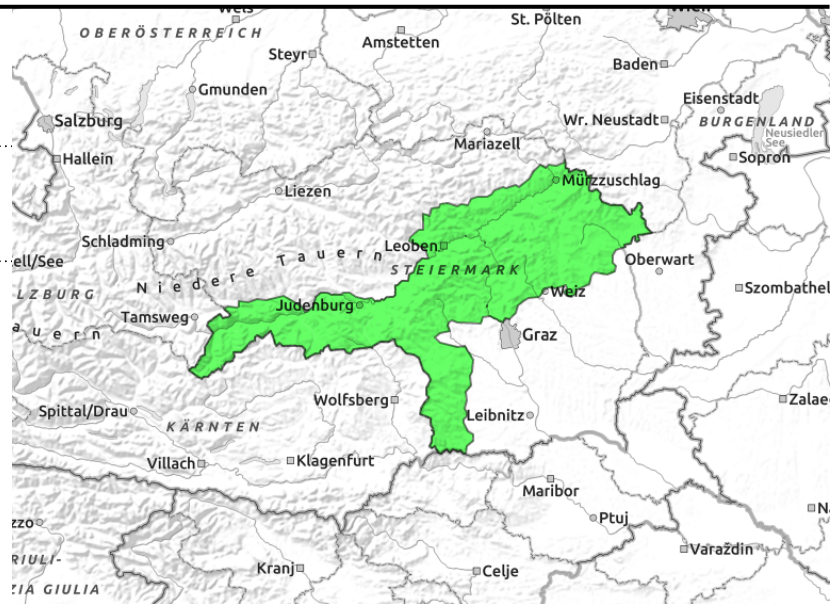


22.12.2021

Westliche Fischbacher Alpen und Grazer Bergland, Mürztaler Alpen, Östliche Fischbacher Alpen und Wechselgebiet, Stub- und Gleinalpe, Koralpe, Seetaler Alpen, Gurktaler Alpen



thin, small snowdrift masses, triggerable only in few spots in steep terrain



Generally low avalanche danger, but caution urged towards snowdrifts

Low avalanche danger in general, but attentiveness urged towards snowdrift patches in landscape concavities which are poorly bonded with the snowbase beneath them, in these danger zones isolated small slab avalanches can be triggered. In shady terrain above the timberline there is a persistent weak layer. Slab avalanches cannot be ruled out. Caution urged towards the peril of falling on icy surfaces.

Snowpack structure

At low altitudes the snowpack is moist and, depending on altitude, covered with a melt-freeze crusts which is often capable of bearing loads. At high altitudes the surface is iced over, hardened or wind-compacted. The fundament beneath that is compact by and large, and evidences hardly any weak layers.

Above 1500 m on shady slopes the snowpack is metamorphosing expansively, the snowpack consists of more and more faceted crystals, it is forfeiting its firmness and losing its base.

Weather

Wednesday will enjoy cloudless skies in most of the mountain regions. Winds from the northwest will intensify on the eastern Alpine rim in particular. From the west the temperatures will rise somewhat. At 2000 m: in Totes Gebirge at midday -4 degrees, on the Hohen Veitsch -8 degrees.

On Thursday, extensive sunshine during the morning in some regions. Cloud cover will increase hour by hour, in the afternoon there will be little sunshine left. Winds will intensify.

Outlook

Avalanche danger is expected to remain low.

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe, www.creativtrans.com

Avalanche problems



New snow



Wind drifted snow



Persistent weak layer



Wet snow



Gliding snow



No problem

Danger ratings



1

low



2

moderate



3

considerable



4

high



5

very high

Expositions

