













Outstanding mountain weather - pay heed to fresh drifts at high altitude

	<p>forestline</p>	<p>Koralpe, Stub- und Glinalpe, Mürzsteger Alpen, Hochschwabgebiet, Ennstaler Alpen, Eisenerzer Alpen, Rottenmanner Tauern, Seckauer Tauern, Nördliche Wölzer Tauern, Südliche Wölzer Tauern, Seetaler Alpen</p>		
		<p>Westliche Fischbacher Alpen und Grazer Bergland, Östliche Fischbacher Alpen und Wechselgebiet, Mürztaler Alpen</p>		
	<p>forestline</p>	<p>Totes Gebirge, Dachsteingebiet, Schladminger Tauern Nord</p>		
	<p>forestline</p>	<p>Gurktaler Alpen, Schladminger Tauern Süd</p>		

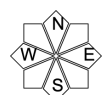
Avalanche problems



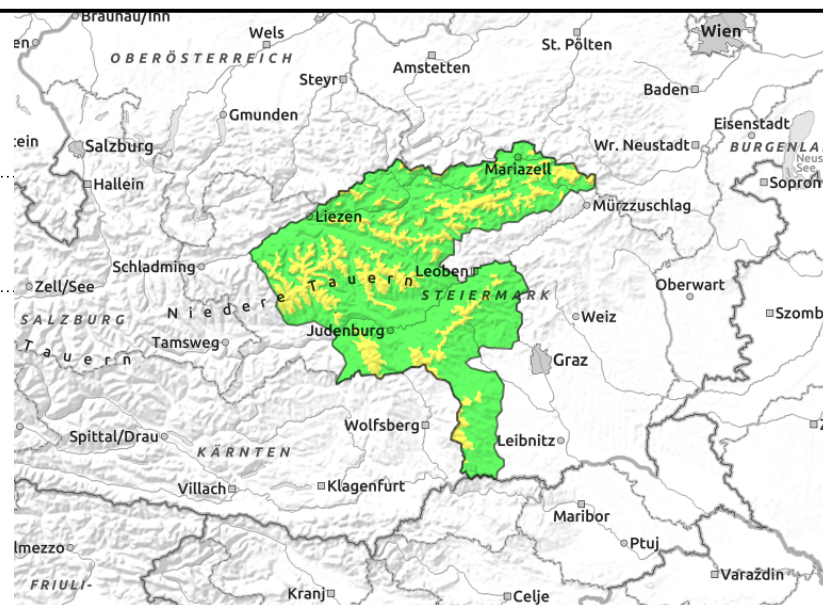
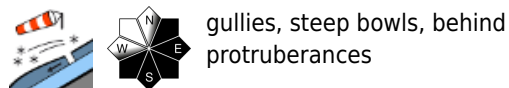
Danger ratings



Expositions



Koralpe, Stub- und Gleinalpe, Mürzsteger Alpen, Hochschwabgebiet, Ennstaler Alpen, Eisenerzer Alpen, Rottenmanner Tauern, Seckauer Tauern, Nördliche Wölzer Tauern, Südliche Wölzer Tauern, Seetaler Alpen



Caution: snowdrift problem at high altitude

Moderate avalanche danger prevails above the timberline. As a result of new snow and often stormy winds, fresh, trigger-sensitive snowdrift accumulations were generated. Depending on their depths, small-to-medium sized slab avalanches can be triggered by large, sometimes by minimum additional loading, i.e. one sole skier. Avalanche prone locations increase with ascending altitude, are found particularly in E/SW aspects in gullies, bowls and behind protruberances, sometimes (depending on wind impact) in forest clearances. High exposed zones are utterly windblown, often hard and icy.

Snowpack structure

From the Seetal Alps over Niedere Tauern to Hochschwab region on Wednesday (in NE regions until Thursday), up to 25 cm of fresh snow has been registered which fell amid strong wind impact. At higher altitudes the fresh snow and drifts were often deposited atop a smooth, melt-freeze encrusted old snowpack surface, initially with little wind influence. Both the smooth surface and the soft snowpack layers constitute a weak layer for the bonded snowdrifts. From place to place also faceted weak layers are found beneath the melt-freeze crust and can be triggered. At lower altitudes, bonding of the fresh snow to the shallow snowpack is often better. In zones without wind the snowpack is loose.

Weather

Intermediate impact of a high-pressure front: superb sunny weather awaits us on Friday. Dry cold will provide excellent visibility. After sunset in NW regions, cloudbanks will move in. Winds will shift to westerly, be blowing at moderate strength to begin with, later only at light strength. At 2000 m: -8 degrees at midday; at 1500 m: -4 degrees.

On Saturday a mild perturbation, lots of cloud, minor snowfall on the northern flank of the Alps, more pleasant conditions in the southern regions. Temperatures will remain wintery.

Outlook

No change in avalanche danger, the snowdrifts may be able to settle somewhat.

Avalanche problems



Danger ratings

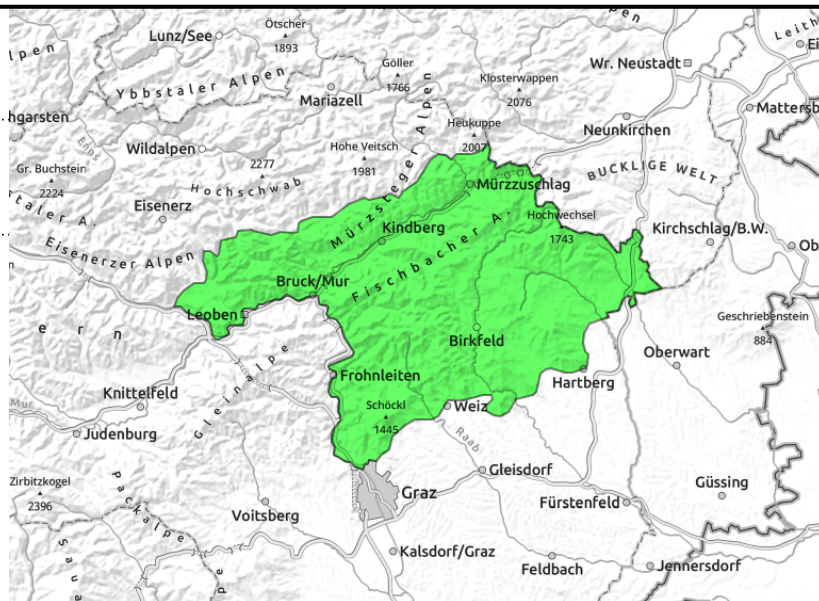
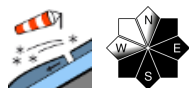


Expositions



07.01.2022

**Westliche Fischbacher Alpen und Grazer Bergland,
Östliche Fischbacher Alpen und Wechselgebiet,
Mürztaler Alpen**



Isolated danger zones at high altitudes due to snowdrifts

In the Mürztal Alps and eastern rimline ranges avalanche danger is low. In the last two days a small amount of fresh snow was registered. Small drifts were generated by NW winds: prone to triggering in gullies, bowls and behind protruberances. The snowpack surface is hard in exposed terrain.

Snowpack structure

In shady high-altitude terrain the fresh snow and drifts were deposited atop a hardened old snowpack. At low altitudes, bonding to the often shallow snowpack is better. Stormy winds are having their effect on the hard surface.

Weather

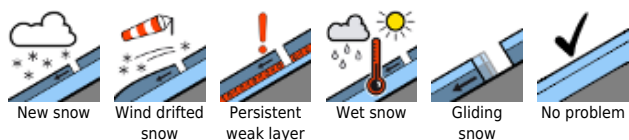
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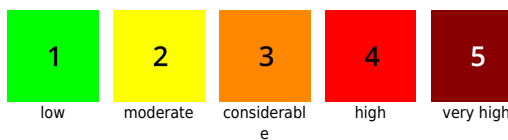
Outlook

Hardly any change in avalanche danger is anticipated.

Avalanche problems



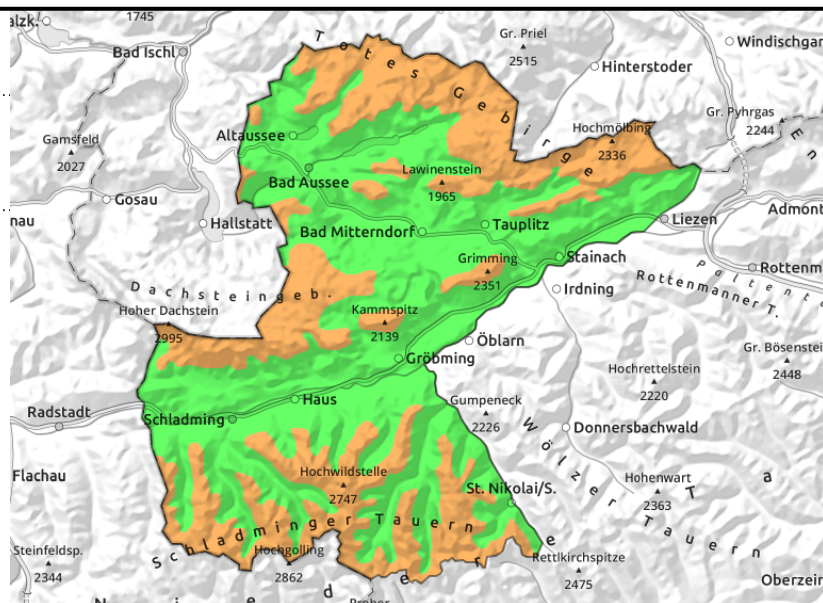
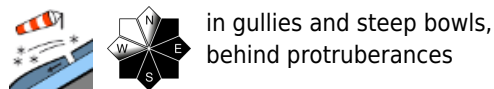
Danger ratings



Expositions



Totes Gebirge, Dachsteingebiet, Schladminger Tauern Nord



Snowdrift problem at high altitude

Above the timberline, avalanche danger is considerable. New snow and frequently strong winds have generated fresh, trigger-sensitive snowdrift accumulations. Small-to-medium slab avalanches can be triggered even by the weight of one sole skier. Avalanche prone locations increase with ascending altitude, are found particularly in NE/E/SW facing gullies and bowls and behind protruberances, depending on wind impact also in forest clearances. Exposed zones are often utterly windblown, hard and icy.

Snowpack structure

In the Dachstein region and Totes Gebirge to the northern Schladminger Tauern, up to 30 cm of fresh snow has been registered which fell amid strong wind impact. At higher altitudes the fresh snow and drifts were often deposited atop a smooth, melt-freeze encrusted old snowpack surface, initially with little wind influence. Both the smooth surface and the soft snowpack layers constitute a weak layer for the bonded snowdrifts. From place to place also faceted weak layers are found beneath the melt-freeze crust and can be triggered. At lower altitudes, bonding of the fresh snow to the shallow snowpack is often better. In zones without wind the snowpack is loose.

Weather

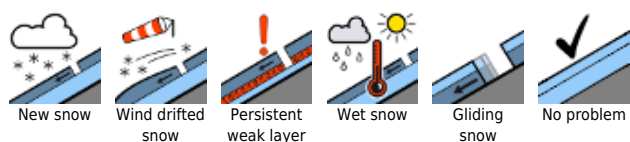
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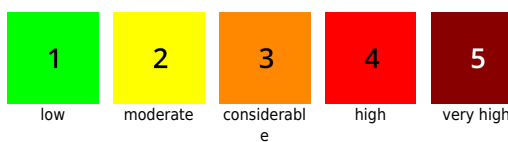
Outlook

The dry cold preserves the snowpack, trigger-sensitive snowdrifts cannot settle, the main problem persists.

Avalanche problems



Danger ratings



Expositions



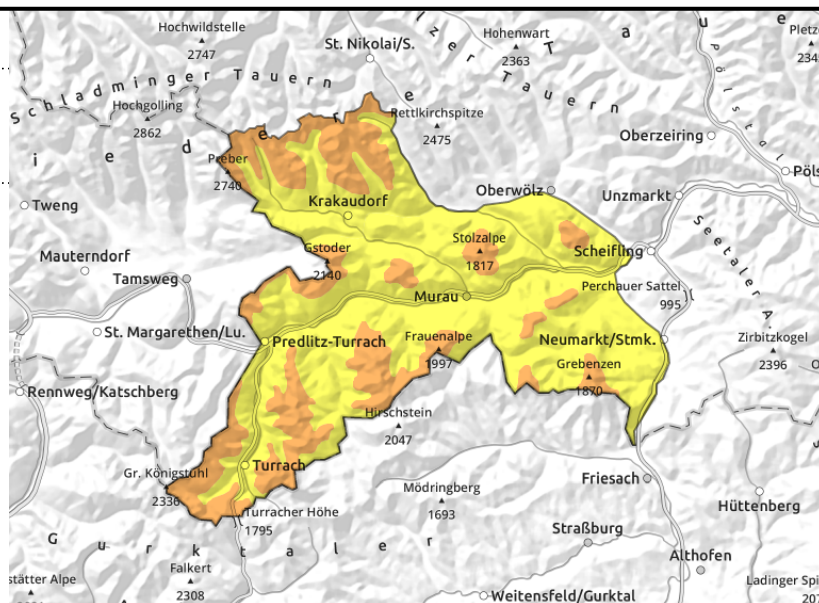
Gurktaler Alpen, Schladminger Tauern Süd



forestline



in gullies, bowls, behind protruberances



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Snowpack structure

In the Turrach region and Schladminger Tauern, up to 30 cm of fresh snow has been registered which fell amid strong wind impact. At higher altitudes the fresh snow and drifts were often deposited atop a smooth, melt-freeze encrusted old snowpack surface, initially with little wind influence. Bot the smooth surface and the soft snowpack layers constitute a weak layer for the bonded snowdrifts. From place to place also faceted weak layers are found beneath the melt-freeze crust and can be triggered. At lower altitudes, bonding of the fresh snow to the shallow snowpack is often better. In zones without wind the snowpack is loose.

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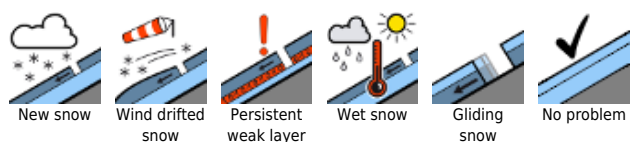
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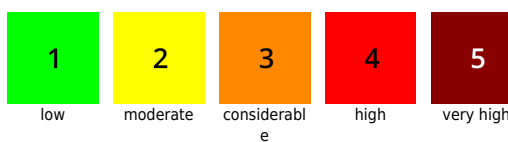
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Translated by Jeffrey McCabe, www.creativtrans.com

Avalanche problems



Danger ratings



Expositions

