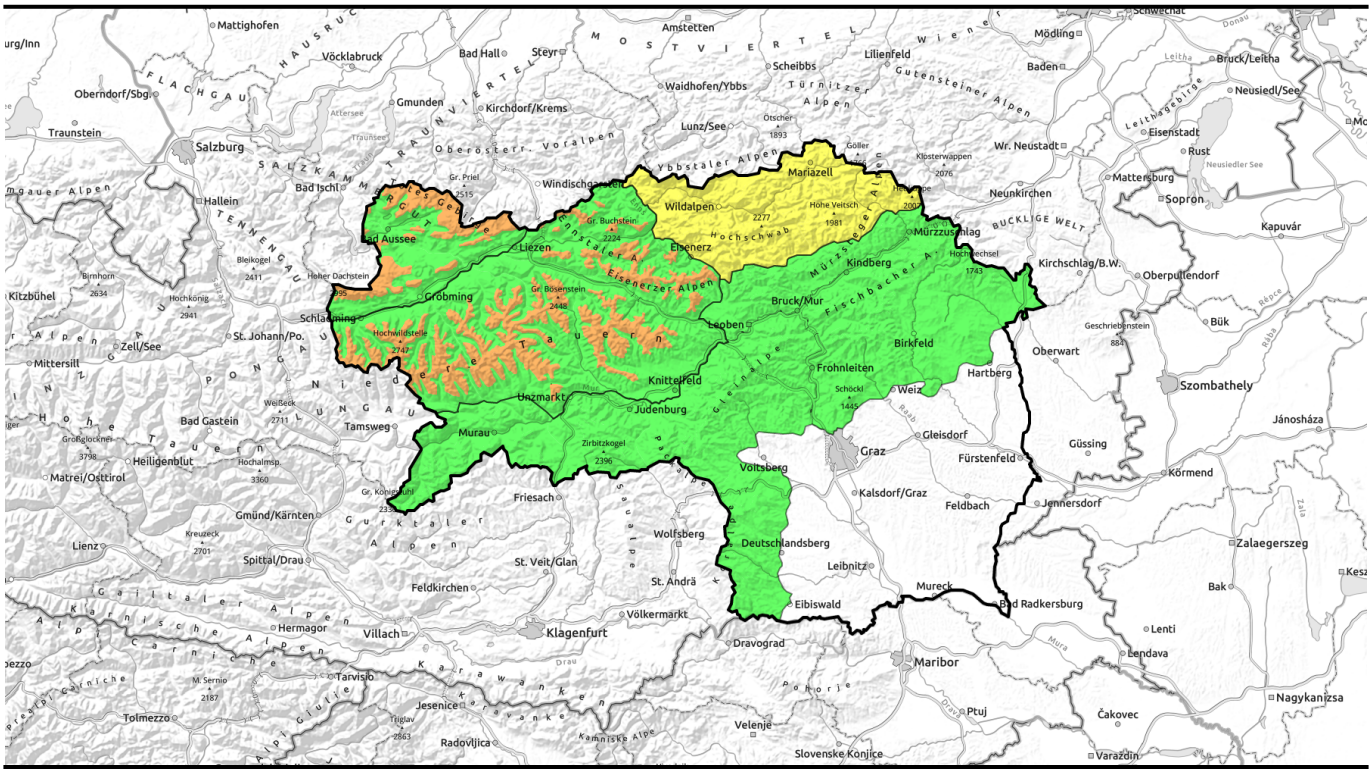
Avalanche report from 21.02.2022, 18:00 h *by Podesser Alexander*

22.02.2022



In northern barrier cloud regions: fresh snow + storm winds, danger of slab avalanches rising

3 / 1 forestline	Schladminger Tauern Nord, Nördliche Wölzer Tauern, Rottenmanner Tauern, Ennstaler Alpen, Schladminger Tauern Süd, Südliche Wölzer Tauern, Seckauer Tauern, Eisenerzer Alpen	
1	Gurktaler Alpen, Seetaler Alpen, Stub- und Gleinalpe, Westliche Fischbacher Alpen und Grazer Bergland, Östliche Fischbacher Alpen und Wechselgebiet, Mürztaler Alpen, Koralpe	
3 / 1 timberline	Dachsteingebiet, Totes Gebirge	
2	Hochschwabgebiet, Mürzsteger Alpen	

Avalanche problems

New snow | Wind drifted snow | Persistent weak layer | Wet snow | Gliding snow | No problem

Danger ratings

1	2	3	4	5
low	moderate	considerable	high	very high

Expositions

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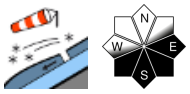
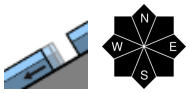
Das Land Steiermark

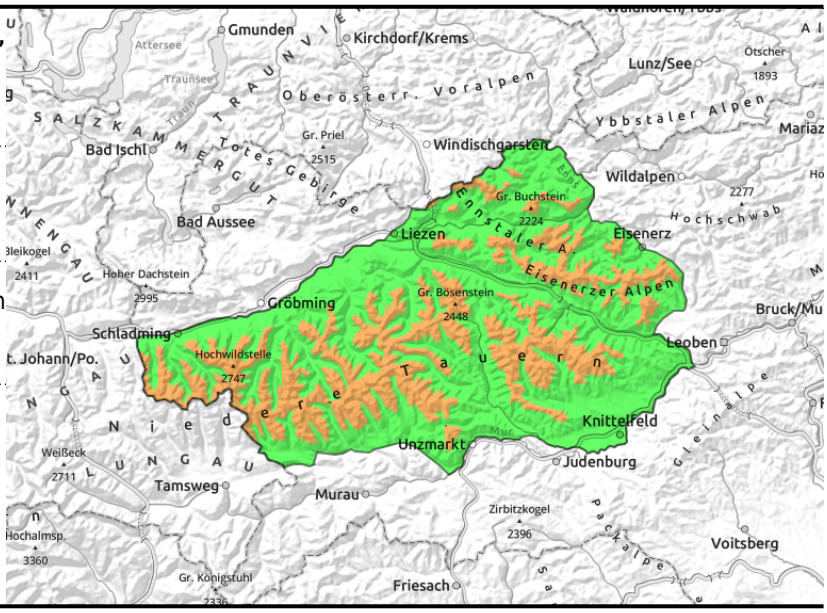
Schladminger Tauern Nord, Nördliche Wölzer Tauern, Rottenmanner Tauern, Ennstaler Alpen, Schladminger Tauern Süd, Südliche Wölzer Tauern, Seckauer Tauern, Eisenerzer Alpen

forestline



slopes distant from ridges down to treeline





Fresh snowdrift accumulations above treeline: caution! AVOID slopes beneath glide cracks.

With ascending altitude, swift increase in avalanche prone locations and danger level from LOW to CONSIDERABLE. Main wind-loaded zones of fresh drifts are on east and south-facing slopes. Even minimum additional loading can trigger a slab avalanche.
On all steep slopes where the ground is smooth, in addition, increased glide-snow avalanche activity will be observed, particularly on sunny slopes. On shady slopes at high altitudes, the persistent weak layer continues to be a threat, most recently in the form of covered surface hoar or faceted crystals beneath melt-freeze crusts. In exposed terrain, e.g. windblown gullies, it is hard and icy: danger of being forced to take a fall.

Snowpack structure

At high altitudes the hardened, melt-freeze encrusted old snowpack surface has been windblown, in many places covered by a thin, loose layer of snowdrift which is bonded poorly with the old snow. At lower altitudes in forested regions the drifted powder has accumulated. The fresh snow will now be deposited on these snow masses on both days, most often as snowdrifts. They do not bond well with the layers atop of which they are deposited. Crests and ridges will be further windblown, the fresh snow transported to lower lying zones.

Weather

After the cold front and its precipitation have passed through the weather will change. The air current will shift to northwesterl, the moist-cold air masses will bring us lots of fresh snow in the northern barrier cloud regions by Wednesday. Already on Monday night snowfall will set in along the Northern Alps and Niedere Tauern, persist until at least Tuesday midday. Graupel is also possible in this precipitation. After a brief interim from an intermediate high in the afternoon with brief intervals of brightness, on Tuesday night the snowfall will set in again and continue until Wednesday midday, as the snowfall level also ascends somewhat. By Wednesday between Dachstein and Totes Gebirge there could be as much as 45 cm of fresh snow; in the Hochschwab region about 30 cm. The precipitation will be accompanied by stormy NW winds. Temperatures at Tuesday at 2000 m: -9 degrees; at 1500 m: -5 degrees.

Avalanche problems

New snow | Wind drifted snow | Persistent weak layer | Wet snow | Gliding snow | No problem

Danger ratings

1	2	3	4	5
low	moderate	considerable	high	very high

Expositions

Avalanche report from 21.02.2022, 18:00 h *by Podesser Alexander*

22.02.2022

The southern regions will benefit from all this, northerly foehn wind will disperse the clouds on both days, it will be sunny. Only over the Niedere Tauern will some clouds bring brief showers further south. Temperatures at all altitudes will be about 2 degrees higher than on the northern flank of the Alps.

Outlook

With further fresh snow in combination with stormy winds, avalanche danger will increase also at lower altitudes.

Avalanche problems

New snow | Wind drifted snow | Persistent weak layer | Wet snow | Gliding snow | No problem

Danger ratings

1	2	3	4	5
low	moderate	considerable	high	very high

Expositions

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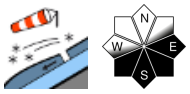
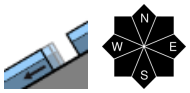
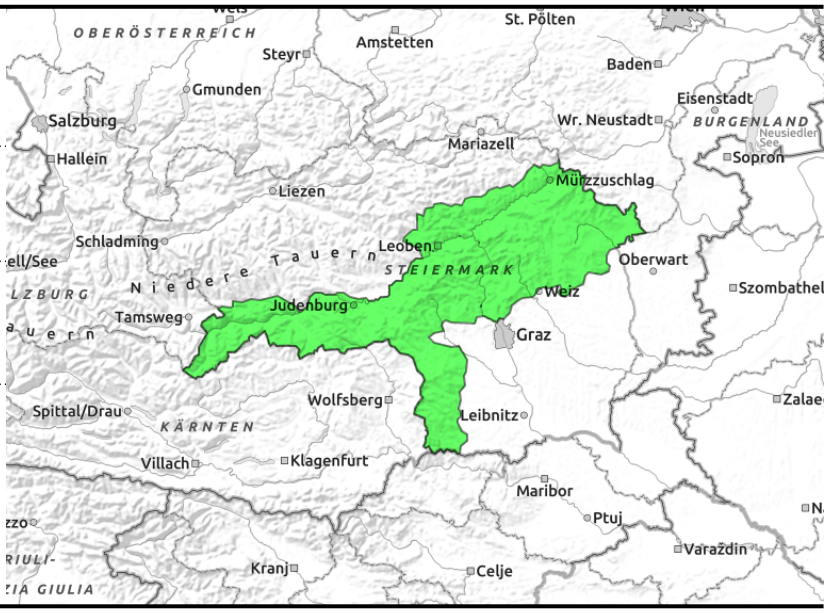
Das Land Steiermark

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







Heed isolated snowdrift accumulations according to wind signs. Avoid zones below glide-cracks.

Avalanche danger is low. At the forefront is the glide-snow problem in the zones where snowfall is heaviest. Slopes below glide-cracks should be avoided at all costs.
Due to the lack of transportable snow, the permanently storm-strength winds have not been able to generate new snowdrift accumulations. Isolated patches are small, can occur in all aspects. Large weak layers are currently unlikely.
On slopes which are shady at high altitudes, the persistent weak layer still threatens, most recently in the form of blanketed surface hoar or faceted crystals beneath melt-freeze crusts. In exposed terrain, i.e. windblown gullies, it is hard and icy, danger of being forced to take a fall.

Snowpack structure

The change from higher to lower temperatures has stablized the snowpack. The surfaces are melt-freeze encrusted, on shady slopes there is compressed powder. Due to the lack of fresh snow there was not much in the way of new snowdrifts which could be generated and deposited on the shallow snowpack in the form of a thin, soft layer on the melt-freeze crust of the old snowpack.

Weather

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Avalanche problems

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Expositions

22.02.2022

south. Temperatures at all altitudes will be about 2 degrees higher than on the northern flank of the Alps.

Outlook

With further fresh snow in combination with stormy winds, avalanche danger will increase also at lower altitudes.

Avalanche problems

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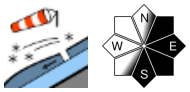
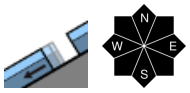
22.02.2022

Das Land Steiermark

Dachsteingebiet, Totes Gebirge

timberline





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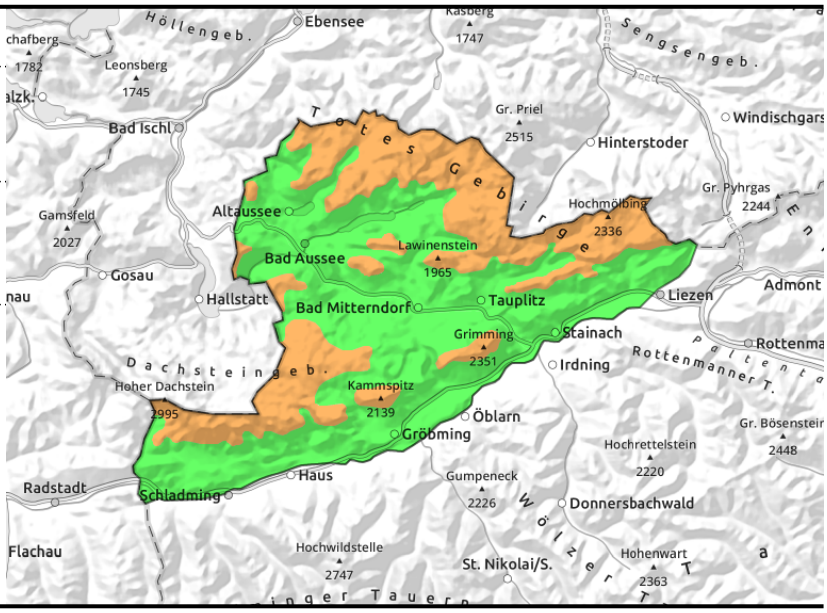

Swiftly increasing danger zones above treeline due to fresh, poorly bonded snowdrifts

With ascending altitude, swift increase in avalanche prone locations and danger level from LOW to CONSIDERABLE. Main wind-loaded zones of fresh drifts are on east and south-facing slopes. Even minimum additional loading can trigger a slab avalanche.
On all steep slopes where the ground is smooth, in addition, increased glide-snow avalanche activity will be observed, particularly on sunny slopes. On shady slopes at high altitudes, the persistent weak layer continues to be a threat, most recently in the form of covered surface hoar or faceted crystals beneath melt-freeze crusts. In exposed terrain, e.g. windblown gullies, it is hard and icy: danger of being forced to take a fall.

Snowpack structure

At high altitudes the hardened, melt-freeze encrusted old snowpack surface has been windblown, in many places covered by a thin, loose layer of snowdrift which is bonded poorly with the old snow. At lower altitudes in forested regions the drifted powder has accumulated. The fresh snow will now be deposited on these snow masses on both days, most often as snowdrifts. They do not bond well with the layers atop of which they are deposited. Crests and ridges will be further windblown, the fresh snow transported to lower lying zones.

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Outlook

With further fresh snow in combination with stormy winds, avalanche danger will increase also at lower altitudes.

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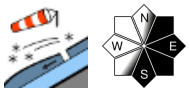
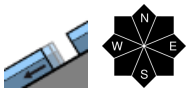
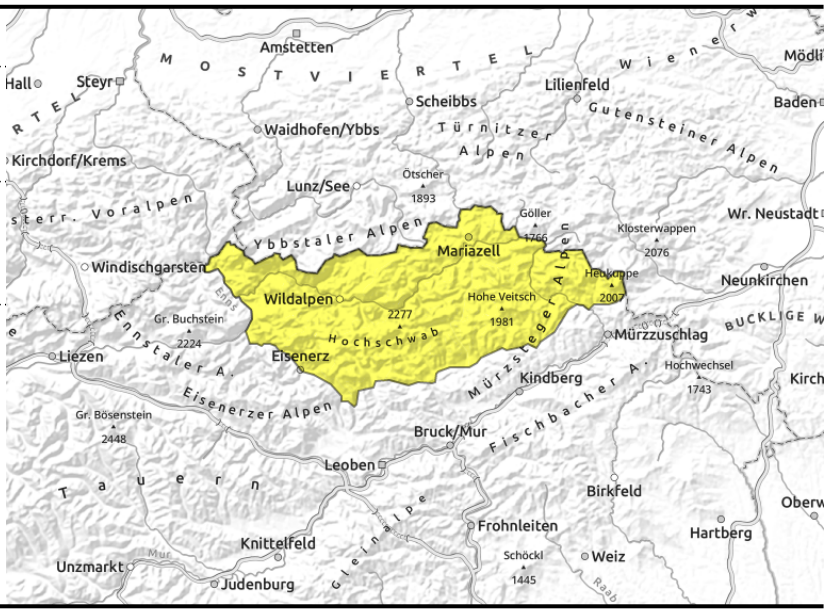
Das Land Steiermark

Hochschwabgebiet, Mürzsteger Alpen







Heed freshly generated snowdrift accumulations. Avoid zones below glide-cracks.

In the eastern part of the Northern Alps, moderate danger prevails. The main wind-loaded zones are in extended E/S aspects, the transported snow can be brought down to forest zones by storm winds. A slab can be triggered especially by large additional loading, in isolated cases by the weight of one sole person.
On all steep slopes where the ground is smooth, in addition, increased glide-snow avalanche activity will be observed, particularly on sunny slopes. On shady slopes at high altitudes, the persistent weak layer continues to be a threat, most recently in the form of covered surface hoar or faceted crystals beneath melt-freeze crusts. In exposed terrain, e.g. windblown gullies, it is hard and icy: danger of being forced to take a fall.

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Avalanche problems

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Expositions

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Outlook

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Translated by Jeffrey McCabe, www.creativtrans.com

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