




Snowdrift problem / Persistent weak layer at high altitudes


 1700 m

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

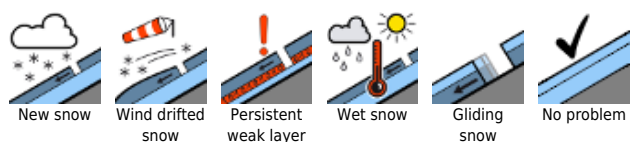


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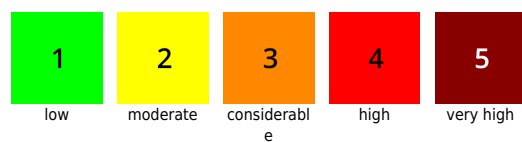
Gurktaler Alpen, Seetaler Alpen, Stub- und Gleinalpe, Koralpe, Westliche Fischbacher Alpen und Grazer Bergland, Östliche Fischbacher Alpen und Wechselgebiet, Mürtztaler Alpen



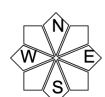
Avalanche problems



Danger ratings



Expositions



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



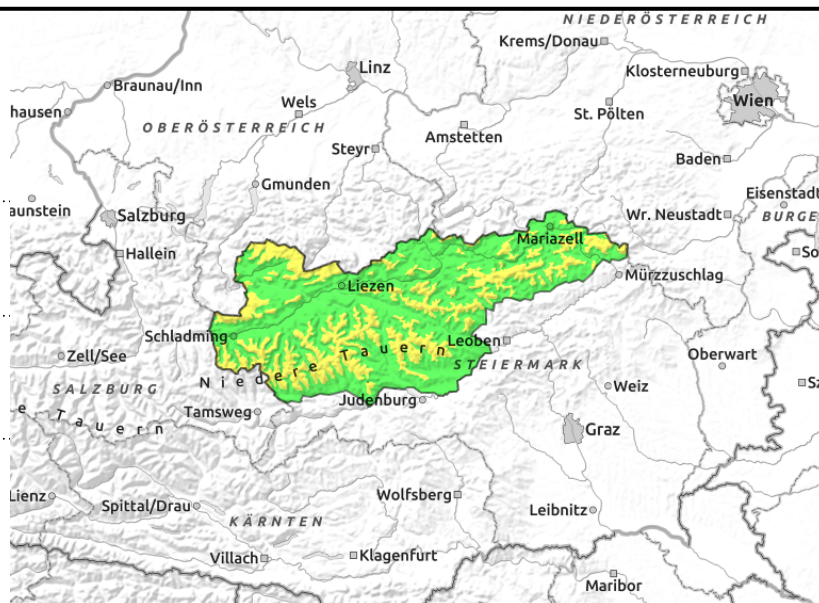
1700 m



above treeline



shady slopes, high alpine regions



Caution urged towards snowdrifts in E/S aspects

Moderate avalanche danger prevails at high altitudes. Danger zones are freshly generated snowdrift accumulations in E/S aspects where slab avalanches can be triggered even by the weight of one sole skier. In addition, snowdrifts in all aspects are often poorly bonded with the old snow, particularly the transition zones from shallow to deep snow are endangered in this respect and should be avoided. At lower altitudes the snowpack is generally stable due to the recent shift in temperatures.

Snowpack structure

The precipitation of recent days has brought up to 50 cm of fresh snow to higher altitudes in the Northern Alps. The new snow was deposited atop a melt-freeze encrusted old snowpack surface. Due to varying wind directions, wide ranging snowdrifts were accumulated in all aspects, most recently in E/S aspects. Bonding of drifts to the old snowpack surface is generally adequate, on shady slopes in transitions to the old snowpack weak layers are evident. These weak layers have faceted crystals in the fundament (persistent weak layer). In addition, the fresh snowdrifts in E/S aspects can be unstable. At lower altitudes a melt-freeze crust has formed.

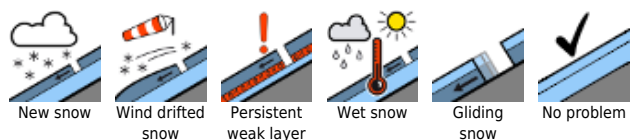
Weather

On the northern flank of the Alps, many peaks are shrouded in clouds, visibility is often reduced. Snowfall is possible all day long, focal point in the Dachstein and Totes Gebirge (20 cm). Again, strong, cold N/NW winds. Temperature at 2000 m: -10 degrees.

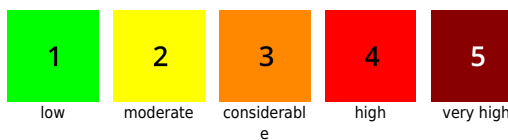
Outlook

On Sunday, weather conditions will improve, but it will remain relatively cold and windy. Avalanche danger is not expected to change significantly.

Avalanche problems



Danger ratings



Expositions



26.02.2022

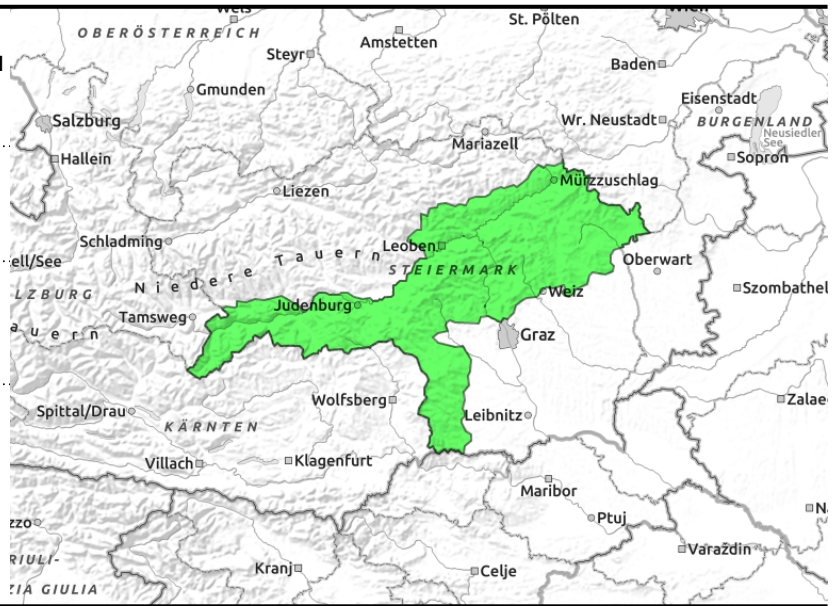
Gurktaler Alpen, Seetaler Alpen, Stub- und Gleinalpe, Korralpe, Westliche Fischbacher Alpen und Grazer Bergland, Östliche Fischbacher Alpen und Wechselgebiet, Mürztaler Alpen



thin, small snowdrift accumulations



shady high-altitude slopes



Heed isolated snowdrift accumulations

Avalanche danger is low. Isolated snowdrift patches are small, but can occur in all aspects. Bonding to the snow base is generally good, but in shady terrain at high altitudes a small slab avalanche cannot be ruled out.

Snowpack structure

The shift from higher to lower temperatures has stabilized the snowpack. The surface is melt-freeze encrusted, on shady slopes there is pressed powder. Due to lack of fresh snow and the hardened old snowpack surface only small fresh snowdrift accumulations generated. Bonding of old snow is insufficient. At high altitudes on shady slopes, weak layers are weakening the snowpack.

Weather

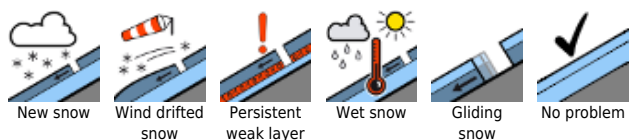
Saturday on the southern flank of the Alps, variable and wintery cold weather. The strong northerly winds will disperse the clouds, the sun will have a chance to peek through. Isolated snow showers cannot be ruled out. Temperature at 2000 m: -10 degrees.

Outlook

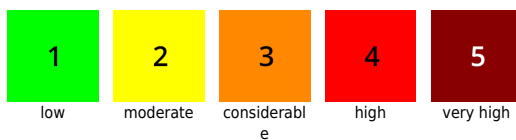
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Translated by Jeffrey McCabe, www.creativtrans.com

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