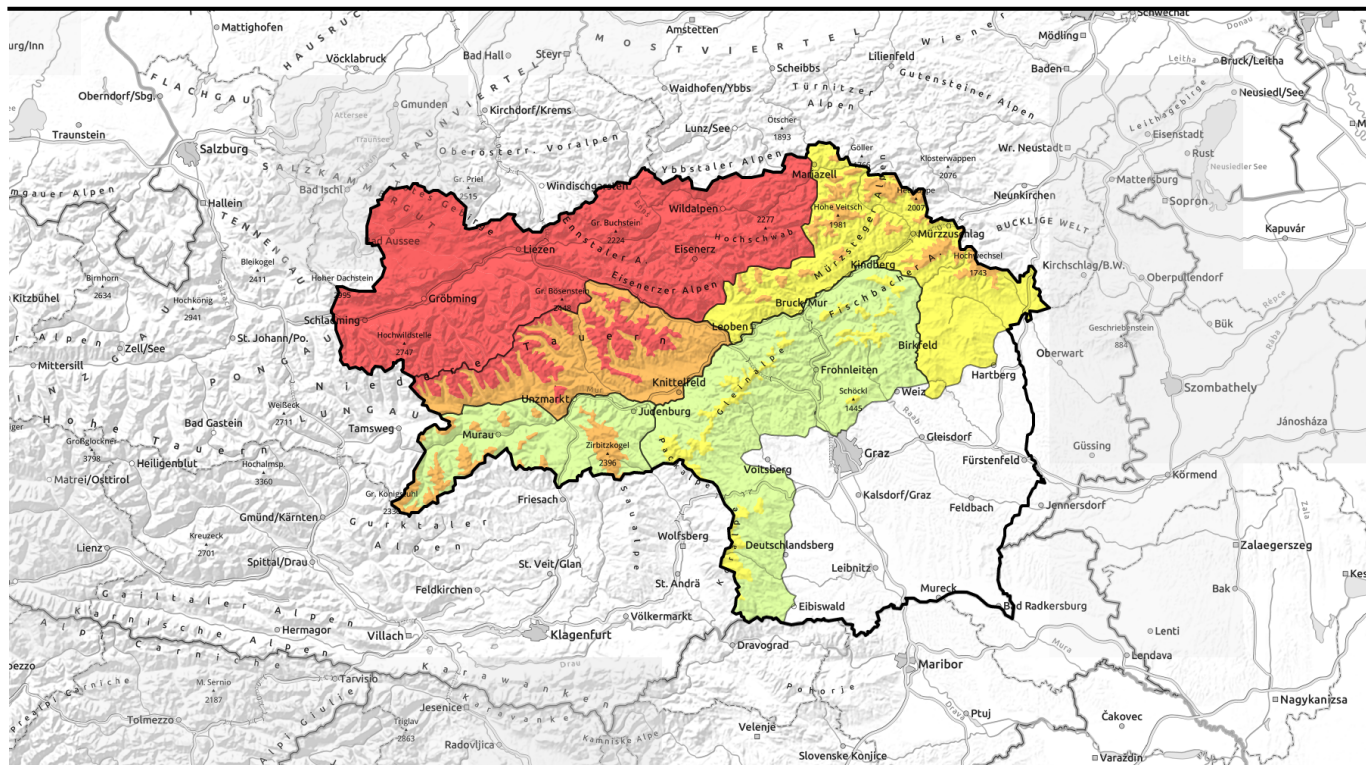












# Avalanche report for Friday, 03.02.2023



## UPDATE: High avalanche danger in northern barrier cloud regions. Rainfall and daytime warming enhancing wet-snow problem.

	forestline	Gurktaler Alpen, Seetaler Alpen	
		Hochschwabgebiet, Eisenerzer Alpen, Ennstaler Alpen, Totes Gebirge, Dachsteingebiet, Rottenmanner Tauern, Nördliche Wölzer Tauern, Schladminger Tauern Nord	
	forestline	Westliche Fischbacher Alpen und Grazer Bergland, Koralpe, Stub- und Gleinalpe	
	forestline	Schladminger Tauern Süd, Südliche Wölzer Tauern, Seckauer Tauern	
	1000 m	Mürztaler Alpen, Östliche Fischbacher Alpen und Wechselgebiet, Mürzteger Alpen	

### Avalanche problems



### Danger ratings

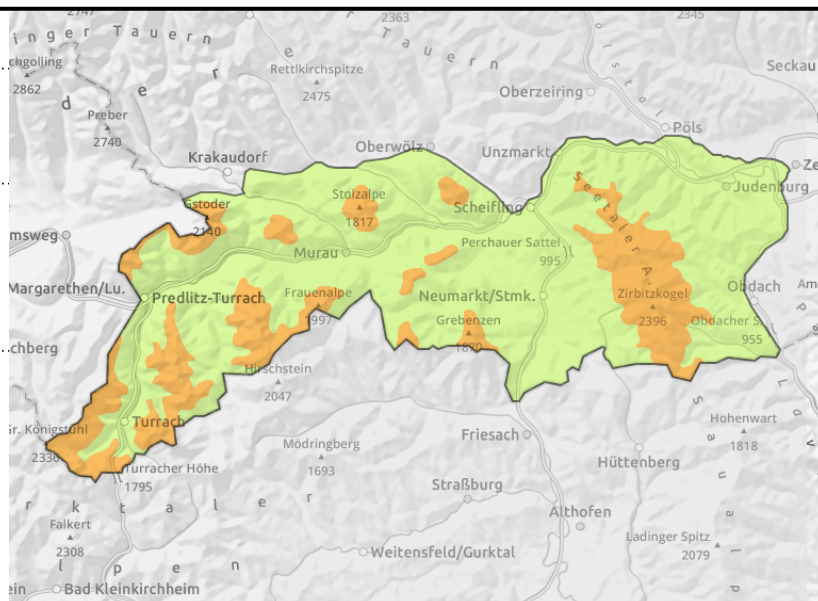
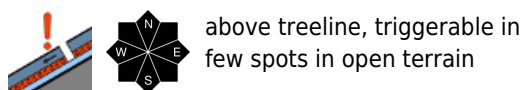
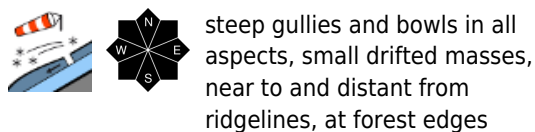


### Expositions



# Avalanche report for **Friday, 03.02.2023**

## Gurktaler Alpen, Seetaler Alpen



## Considerable avalanche danger due to fresh snowdrift accumulations at high altitudes

Avalanche danger above the timberline is **CONSIDERABLE**, below that altitude danger is **LOW**. Fresh snow and stormy NW winds have generated wide-ranging snowdrift accumulations in all aspects during the last few days. On Thursday they will increase in size and spread. The drifted masses lie near to and distant from ridgelines, in steep gullies and bowls, near the edge of the treeline and in sparsely wooded zones. Weak layers in the fresh snow and drifts can be triggered by one person and grow to dangerously large size. Poor visibility makes assessment on-site very difficult. Also, there are isolated weak layers inside the snowpack which can be triggered due to the weight of the fresh snow and drifts - large sized avalanches can be the result.

As the snowfall level rises, small naturally triggered wet slides are possible in forest zones.

### Snowpack structure

In the last 24 hours there has been 10-20 cm of fresh snow registered widespread, more will come on Thursday night which will be transported by NW winds and deposited as new drifts on south and east-facing slopes atop loose fresh snow or bonded drifts. Weak layers occur inside the fresh snow and at the borders to the snowpack. As the snowfall level rises and daytime warming is felt, the snowpack below 1000-1200 m will moisten and lose firmness.

### Weather

A strong NW air current is bringing stormy winds and some snowfall. Snowfall will start on Thursday morning, persist until evening and be heavy in the afternoon (snowfall level 800-1000 m, rainfall lower down). Up to 20 cm of fresh snow is possible, amid strong NW winds. At 2000 m: -4 degrees; the zero-degree level lies at 1400 m.

On Saturday, light intermittent snowfall, stormy NW wind. Temperature at 2000 m: -12 degrees.

### Outlook

Stormy winds will still generate new drifts. No significant change in avalanche danger is expected.

#### Avalanche problems



#### Danger ratings

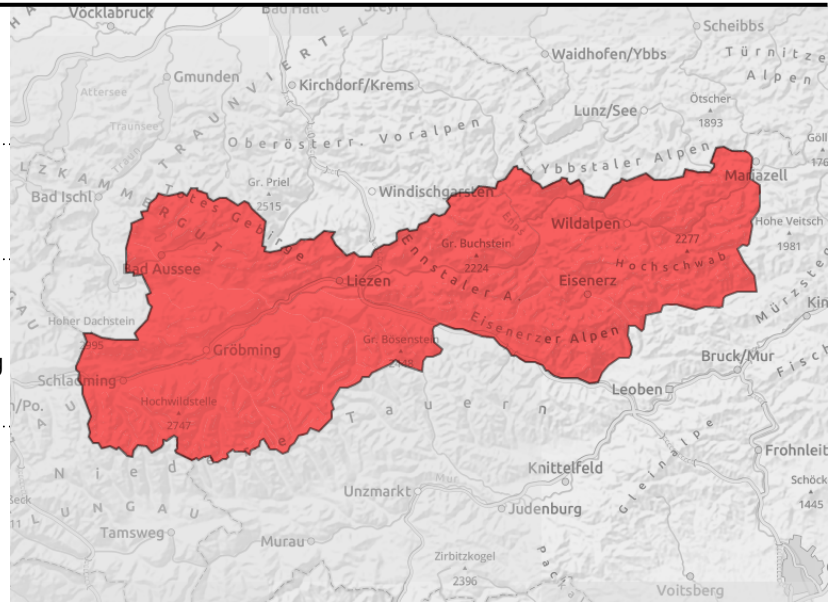


#### Expositions



# Avalanche report for Friday, 03.02.2023

**Hochschwabgebiet, Eisenerzer Alpen, Ennstaler Alpen, Totes Gebirge, Dachsteingebiet, Rottenanner Tauern, Nördliche Wölzer Tauern, Schladminger Tauern Nord**



heavy snowfall + strong winds, naturally triggered avalanches, ascending snowfall level during daytime



wet-snow avalanches from the forests as rainfall sets in, daytime cycle of naturally triggered avalanche activity

## UPDATE: HIGH avalanche danger. Exposed transport roads imperiled by wet-snow avalanches.

Above the treeline, HIGH avalanche danger (Danger Level 4) prevails, below 1000-1200 m wet slab and loose-snow avalanches threaten to trigger from forested and grass-covered slopes which can endanger transport roads. Naturally triggering slabs and loose-snow avalanches are likely on steep slopes in all aspects. Frequency and spread of danger zones increases with ascending altitude. As the fresh snow accumulates, the weight can cause deeper layers to give way, the releases can be large-sized. Backcountry tours demand a high degree of restraint.

### Snowpack structure

In the last 24 hours there has been 50-100 cm of fresh snow registered widespread, in the Eisenerzer Alps, Gesäuse and Hochschwab regions up to 120 cm. Ascending snowfall level during the day will lead to a moistening of the snowpack below 1000-1200m and loss of bonding. Weak layers occur inside the fresh snow and at the borders to the snowpack. More deeply embedded inside the snowpack are layers of faceted crystals surrounding melt-freeze crusts which weaken the entire snowpack.

### Weather

Precipitation will ease over the course of the morning, turn to rain below 1000-1200 m, sometimes sleet or drizzling at low altitudes. As evening approaches the precipitation will intensify in the northern barrier cloud regions, during Friday night widespread snowfall is anticipated, the snowfall level will slowly descend again. At 2000 m: -6 degrees; the zero-degree level lies at 1200 m. On Saturday, light intermittent snowfall, the snowfall level will descend to the valley floor, and gale-strength NW winds will be blowing. Temperature at 2000 m: -10 degrees.

### Outlook

As snowfall and winds persist, the avalanche situation will remain tense.

#### Avalanche problems



#### Danger ratings



#### Expositions



# Avalanche report for Friday, 03.02.2023

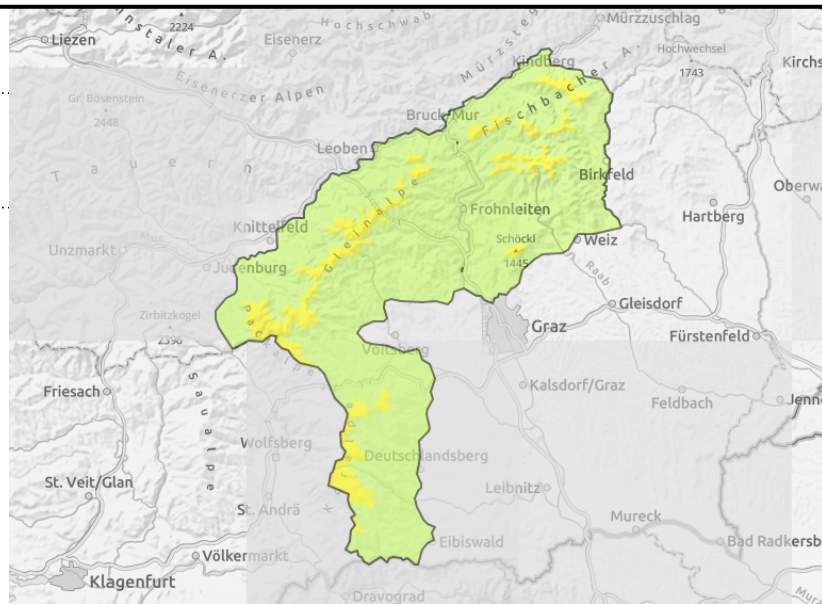
## Westliche Fischbacher Alpen und Grazer Bergland, Koralpe, Stub- und Gleinalpe



forestline



thin, small snowdrift masses in steep gullies and bowls in all aspects near to and distant from ridgelines, near forest edges



## MODERATE avalanche danger above the timberline due fresh snowdrift accumulations

MODERATE avalanche danger above the timberline, LOW below that altitude. Strong-to-stormy NW winds combined with snowfall are generating fresh snowdrift accumulations in gullies and bowls in all aspects near to and distant from ridgelines, also in sparsely wooded zones. Small-to-medium sized slab avalanches can be triggered even by one person. Weak layers are prone to triggering, can be released even by one person and grow to large size. Poor visibility makes assessment of dangers on-site very difficult.

As the snowfall level ascends during the day, small naturally triggered avalanches can release from forested and grass-covered slopes.

### Snowpack structure

In the last 24 hours there has been 10-20 cm of fresh snow registered widespread, more more arrived on Thursday night and Friday morning which will be transported by NW winds and deposit new drifts on south and east-facing slopes atop loose fresh snow or bonded drifts. Weak layer occur inside the fresh snow and at the borders to the snowpack. As the snowfall level rises and daytime warming is felt, the snowpack below 1000-1200 will moisten and forfeit firmness.

### Weather

A strong NW air current is bringing stormy winds and some snowfall. More fresh snow on Friday morning, then an interim until afternoon. The snowfall level will ascend temporarily to about 1000-1200 m, light rainfall or sleet at low altitudes. Towards evening, precipitation will renew, the snowfall level descend slowly. At 2000 m: -4 degrees; the zero-degree level lies at 1400 m. On Saturday, light snowfall during the morning. Stormy NW winds in the mountains. At 2000 m: -12 degrees.

### Outlook

Stormy winds continue to make the snowdrifts prone to triggering. No significant change is expected in avalanche danger levels.

#### Avalanche problems



#### Danger ratings

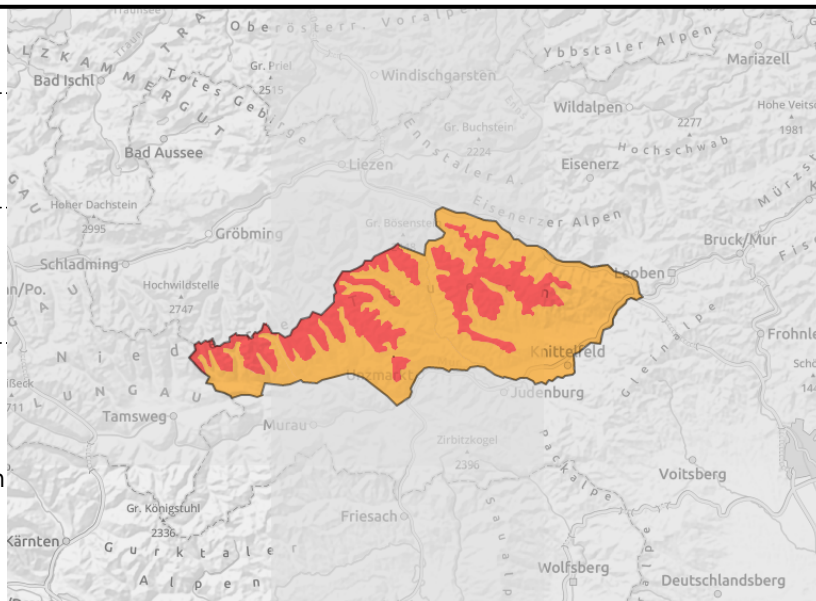
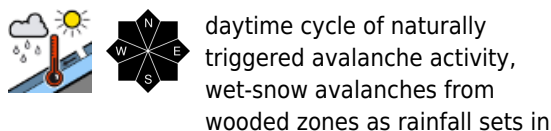
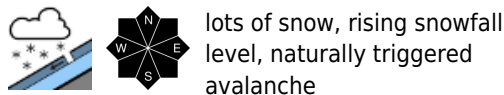


#### Expositions



# Avalanche report for Friday, 03.02.2023

## Schladinger Tauern Süd, Südliche Wölzer Tauern, Seckauer Tauern



## HIGH avalanche danger above the treeline. Increasing naturally triggered avalanches.

Above the treeline, HIGH avalanche danger (Danger Level 4) prevails, below that altitude the danger is CONSIDERABLE. Naturally triggered slab and loose-snow avalanches in steep terrain in all aspects are likely. As the snowpack thickens, avalanches can fracture down to deeper layers. As the snowfall level ascends, more wet slabs of medium size and loose-snow releases from wooded zones are expected, they can even endanger transport roads.

Winter tours require immense restraint. Danger zones in the fresh snow and drifts are widespread and easy to trigger, but nearly impossible to recognize in open terrain.

### Snowpack structure

In the last 24 hours there has been 20-50 cm of fresh snow registered widespread, more will come on Thursday night which will be transported by NW winds and deposit new drifts on south and east-facing slopes atop loose fresh snow or bonded drifts. Weak layer occur inside the fresh snow and at the borders to the snowpack. As the snowfall level rises and daytime warming is felt, the snowpack below 1200 will moisten and lose firmness.

### Weather

On the southern flank of the Alps clouds will disperse somewhat during the day, the precipitation will slacken off. Much less precipitation is expected (Thursday night: 10-20 cm of fresh snow) by Friday evening. The snowfall level lies around 1200 m, the zero-degree level at 1500 m. On Friday night, snowfall intensity will gradually increase.

On Saturday, light intermittent snowfall until midday, the snowfall level will descend to valley level again, stormy NW wind. Temperature at 2000 m: -10 degrees.

### Outlook

Due to further snowfall and winds, the avalanche situation will remain tense.

#### Avalanche problems



#### Danger ratings




#### Expositions

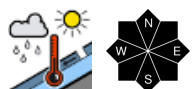


# Avalanche report for Friday, 03.02.2023

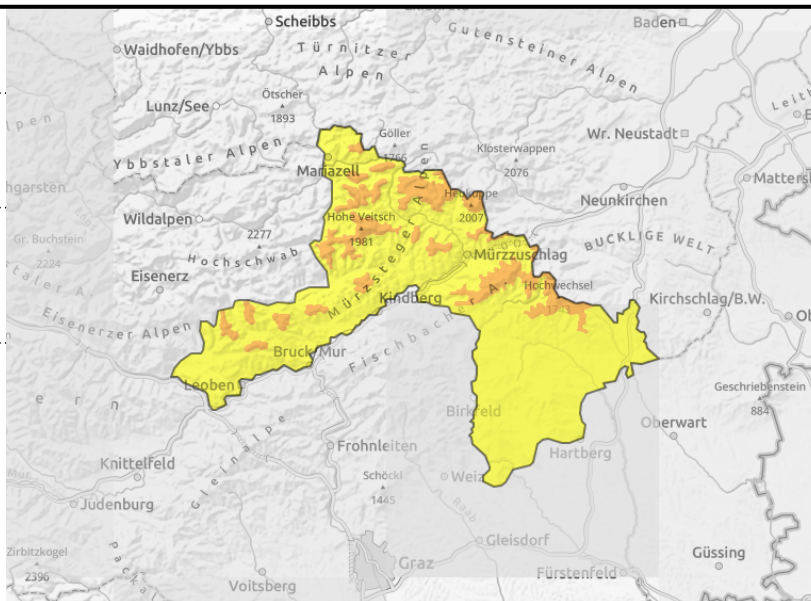
## Mürztaler Alpen, Östliche Fischbacher Alpen und Wechselgebiet, Mürzsteiger Alpen

lots of fresh snow, naturally triggering avalanches, ascending snowfall level



wet-snow avalanches out of forests as rainfall sets in



## UPDATE: CONSIDERABLE avalanche danger above 1000 m. Naturally triggered avalanches at low altitudes.

Above 1000 m, avalanche danger is CONSIDERABLE, below that altitude danger is MODERATE. Naturally triggered slab and loose-snow avalanches are expected on steep slopes in all aspects which can reach medium size. As the snowfall level ascend, wet slab and loose-snow slides can be expected to trigger in steep forested terrain below 1000 m. Fresh snowdrift accumulations are very easy to trigger, but nearly impossible to recognize due to being blanketed by fresh snow in open terrain - poor visibility.

### Snowpack structure

In the last 24 hours there has been 50-80 cm of fresh snow registered widespread which will be transported by NW winds and deposit new drifts in all aspects atop loose fresh snow or bonded drifts. As the snowfall level ascends, the snowpack below 1000 m will moisten and forfeit its bonding. Weak layers inside the fresh snow and drifts are easily triggered.

### Weather

Precipitation will slacken off during the morning. The snowfall level will ascend during the daytime to 1000 m temporarily, at low altitudes rain or sleet is expected. As evening approaches the precipitation will renew, intensive snowfall is expected on Friday night, the snowfall level again descending. At 2000 m: -6 degrees Friday afternoon, the zero-degree level will be at 1000 m. On Saturday, snowfall until midday, the snowfall level will descend down to the valley floor. Gale-strength NW winds. At 2000m: -12 degrees.

### Outlook

Due to further snowfall and winds, the avalanche situation will remain tense.

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe, [www.creativtrans.com](http://www.creativtrans.com)

### Avalanche problems



### Danger ratings



### Expositions

