



Danger Level 2 - Moderate



Tendency: Increasing avalanche danger
on Wednesday 16 02 2022



Wind-drifted
snow



New snow



New snow and wind slabs require caution.

The fresh snow and in particular the wind slabs represent the main danger. As a consequence of new snow and a moderate to strong wind from northwesterly directions, avalanche prone wind slabs will form by the evening over a wide area. The fresh wind slabs can in many cases be released by people, but they will be small in most cases. This applies in particular on very steep northeast, east and south facing slopes, as well as in shady places that are protected from the wind above approximately 2000 m. Small natural avalanches are possible also adjacent to ridgelines. The new snow can be released easily in particular on very steep shady slopes above approximately 2000 m. The avalanches in these locations are rather small but in many cases easily released.

The avalanche prone locations are barely recognisable because of the poor visibility. Backcountry touring calls for meticulous route selection.

Snowpack

Up to 5 cm of snow fell today above approximately 1500 m. This snow is lying on surface hoar on wind-protected shady slopes and at intermediate and high altitudes. Over a wide area 10 to 15 cm of snow, and even more in some localities, will fall until Tuesday above approximately 1500 m. The northwesterly wind will transport the new snow significantly. The fresh wind slabs will be deposited on weak layers in all aspects.

Above approximately 2000 m there are 100 to 200 cm of snow, and even more in some localities. Snow depths vary greatly at elevated altitudes, depending on the influence of the wind.

The weather report and anticipated change in the avalanche danger are uncertain. The avalanche danger should be investigated very thoroughly in the relevant locality.

Tendency

Wednesday: In particular high altitudes and the high Alpine regions: As a consequence of new snow and strong wind the prevalence and size of the avalanche prone locations will increase. Gradual increase in danger of moist avalanches as the snowfall level rises.