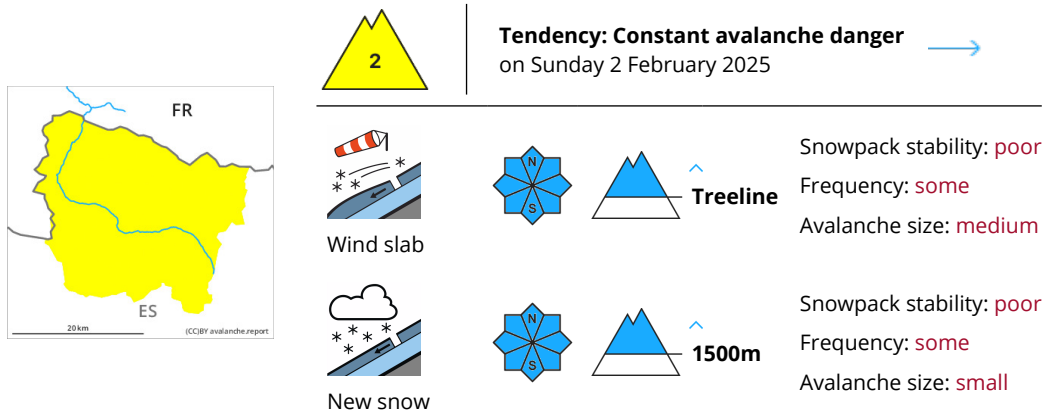




Danger Level 2 - Moderate



New snow and wind slabs are to be assessed with care and prudence.

As a consequence of new snow and a moderate to strong northwesterly wind, extensive wind slabs formed in all aspects. This snow and in particular the sometimes deep wind slabs can be released by a single winter sport participant above the tree line. In isolated cases the avalanches are medium-sized. The avalanche prone locations are to be found adjacent to ridgelines and in gullies and bowls. Especially from the border with Benasque to the border with Ribagorça and Pallars these avalanche prone locations are more prevalent.

Field observations and whumpfung sounds and the formation of shooting cracks when stepping on the snowpack indicate a precarious avalanche situation on very steep slopes.

Experience and restraint are required.

Snowpack

Over a wide area 30 to 40 cm of snow has fallen since Tuesday. In some regions up to 10 cm of snow, and even more in some localities, will fall until midday above approximately 1400 m. The northwesterly wind will transport the new snow.

The upper section of the snowpack is dry and has a loosely bonded surface.

Also adjacent to ridgelines in all aspects: Even in moderately steep terrain there is a danger of falling on the icy crust.

Above the tree line snow depths vary greatly, depending on the influence of the wind. In all regions less snow than usual is lying.

Tendency

Slight decrease in danger of dry avalanches as the snowfall eases. Gradual increase in danger of moist snow slides as a consequence of warming during the day and solar radiation.