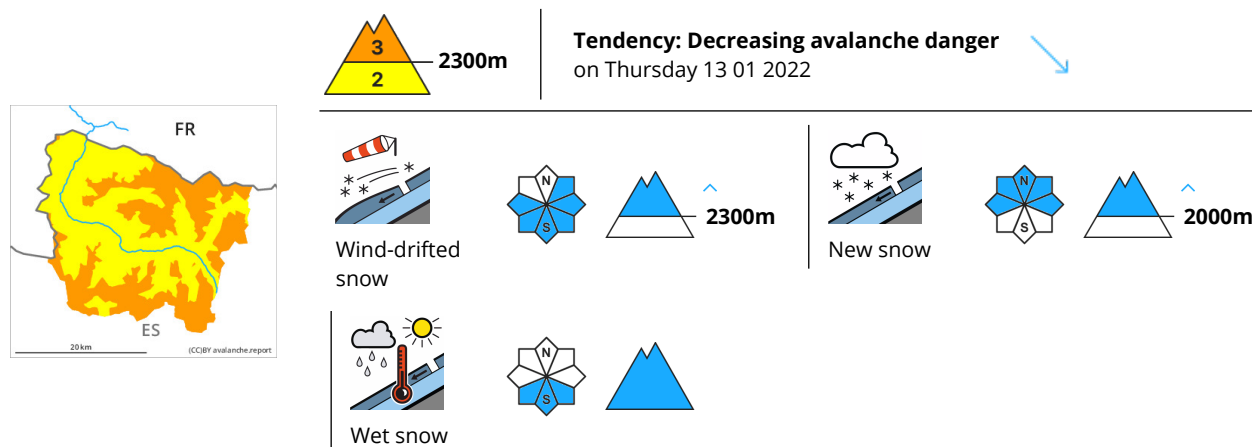


Danger Level 3 - Considerable



The cold fresh snow and the wind slabs formed during the snowfall represent the main danger. As the day progresses individual gliding avalanches and moist snow slides are possible.

The large quantity of fresh snow of the last few days and the extensive wind slabs formed by the sometimes storm force northerly wind can be released in some cases in all aspects at high altitudes and in high Alpine regions. In isolated cases the dry avalanches are large. On very steep shady slopes and in places that are protected from the wind dry snow slides are to be expected, but they will be mostly small. As a consequence of new snow and a light to moderate northeasterly wind, further wind slabs will form by the early morning adjacent to ridgelines on south and west facing slopes.

In particular on very steep sunny slopes and on grassy slopes only isolated small to medium-sized gliding avalanches and moist snow slides are possible as a consequence of solar radiation.

In particular above approximately 2300 m: The conditions are sometimes treacherous for ski touring, freeriding and snowshoe hiking in steep terrain. The current avalanche situation calls for meticulous route selection.

Snowpack

50 to 100 cm of snow, and even more in some localities, has fallen since Saturday above approximately 2000 m. The northerly wind has transported the fresh and old snow significantly. The fresh snow and the wind slabs have bonded quite well with the old snowpack in all aspects. Unsuccessful avalanche blasting activities and field observations confirm a quite favourable avalanche situation. In particular wind-protected shady slopes and gullies, bowls and the base of rock walls: Weak layers in the old snowpack necessitate caution. Also very steep sunny slopes as well as grassy slopes: The danger of gliding avalanches and moist snow slides will increase a little during the day. Especially at intermediate and high altitudes a very large amount of snow is lying for the time of year.

Tendency

Thursday: The new snow and wind slabs are bonding quite well with the old snowpack in particular on steep sunny slopes. Gradual decrease in danger of gliding avalanches and moist snow slides as the temperature drops.