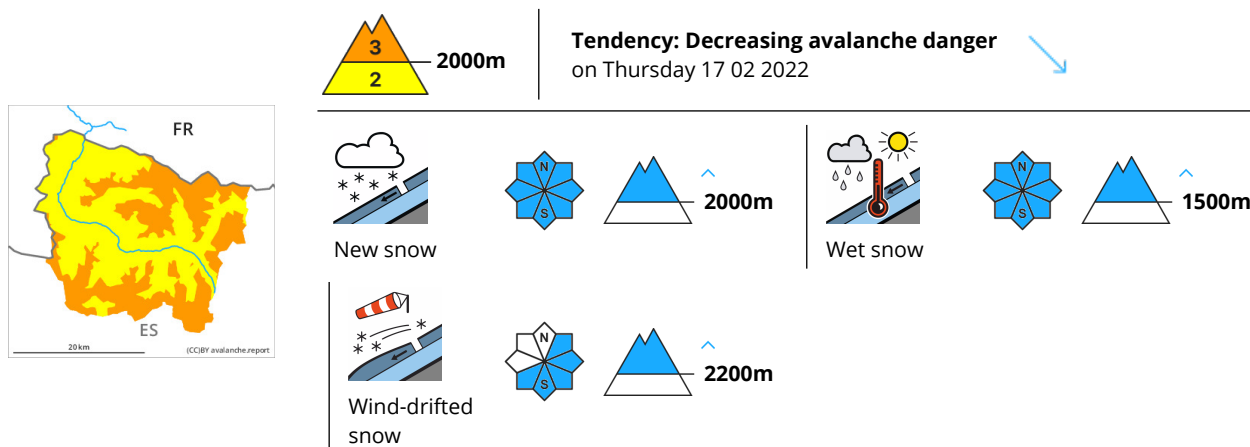


Danger Level 3 - Considerable



New snow and wind slabs until the early morning. Moist snow slides and avalanches are to be expected from the middle of the day.

The fresh snow and all the wind slabs can be released easily, or, in isolated cases naturally in all aspects above approximately 2000 m. As a consequence of new snow and a sometimes strong wind from northwesterly directions, further wind slabs will form by the middle of the day over a wide area. New snow and wind slabs can in many places be released by people and reach medium size. This applies in particular on very steep northeast, east and south facing slopes, and on wind-protected shady slopes.

During the day: Gradual increase in danger of moist avalanches as the snowfall level rises. In all aspects small and medium-sized moist snow slides and avalanches are to be expected in all altitude zones. In particular on very steep shady slopes medium-sized natural avalanches, capable of reaching a long way in some cases, must be expected in many places.

Backcountry touring calls for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger and careful route selection. As a consequence of heat and rain a dangerous avalanche situation will be encountered over a wide area.

Snowpack

Over a wide area 15 to 25 cm of snow, and even more in some localities, fell in the last two days above approximately 1500 m. The new snow is lying on soft layers in all aspects and at intermediate and high altitudes. The northwesterly wind has transported the new snow significantly. Released avalanches and field observations have indicated a precarious avalanche situation in particular on north to northeast to east facing slopes.

Some snow fell in the late morning. Up to high altitudes rain will fall until the afternoon. The peak of avalanche activity will be reached from the middle of the day probably.

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.

Tendency

Thursday: Gradual decrease in danger of dry and moist avalanches as a consequence of the ceasing of precipitation. The surface of the snowpack will only just freeze and will soften during the day.