



Danger Level 2 - Moderate



Tendency: Increasing avalanche danger
on Sunday 15 01 2023



Wind slab



Snowpack stability: **fair**

Frequency: **some**

Avalanche size: **medium**

Old wind slabs represent the main danger.

The old wind slabs must be evaluated with care and prudence in particular on steep, little used north and east facing slopes above approximately 2400 m. The avalanche prone locations are to be found in particular on wind-protected shady slopes and in areas where the snow cover is rather shallow. Mostly Explanation: "these" may only stand for "these avalanches" are small but in some cases easily released. At the border to Ribagorça and Pallars and at the border to Benasque the avalanche prone locations are more prevalent and larger. In particular these can in some cases reach medium size.

As a consequence of new snow and a sometimes moderate westerly wind, further wind slabs will form by Saturday in particular adjacent to ridgelines as well as at elevated altitudes. The fresh wind slabs are in many cases very small but can be released easily. The somewhat older wind slabs are covered with new snow in some cases and therefore difficult to recognise. As a consequence of warming during the day and solar radiation only isolated small gliding avalanches and moist snow slides are possible.

Apart from the danger of being buried, restraint should be exercised in view of the danger of avalanches sweeping people along and giving rise to falls. Off-piste activities call for meticulous route selection.

Snowpack

Fresh and somewhat older wind slabs are lying on weak layers in particular on wind-protected shady slopes above approximately 2400 m. In some cases the wind slabs have bonded poorly with the old snowpack. Some snow fell today in some localities. The sometimes moderate wind will transport only a little snow.

Above the tree line there are 20 to 50 cm of snow, and even more in some localities. At high altitudes and in high Alpine regions snow depths vary greatly, depending on the influence of the wind. At low and intermediate altitudes from a snow sport perspective, insufficient snow is lying.

Tendency

Sunday: Gradual increase in danger of dry avalanches as a consequence of new snow and wind. Significant decrease in danger of moist avalanches as the temperature drops.