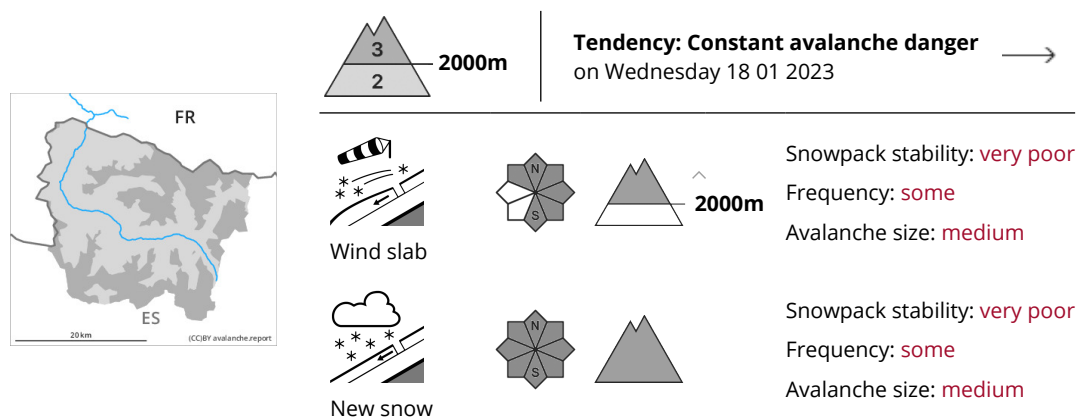


Danger Level 3 - Considerable



New snow and wind slabs: Outside marked and open pistes a dangerous avalanche situation will be encountered over a wide area.

The new snow and wind slabs can be released easily or naturally in all aspects. In many cases the avalanches are medium-sized and very easily released. Shady slopes where weaknesses exist in the old snowpack are especially unfavourable. In addition the large surface-area wind slabs adjacent to ridgelines and in gullies and bowls in all aspects are prone to triggering in many locations. Above approximately 2000 m the avalanche prone locations are more prevalent and the danger is greater.

Off-piste activities call for extensive experience in the assessment of avalanche danger and restraint. The avalanche prone locations are barely recognisable because of the poor visibility.

Snowpack

The new snow and wind slabs are lying on the unfavourable surface of an old snowpack especially on little used shady slopes above approximately 2000 m. Released avalanches and weak layers in the upper part of the snowpack indicate this situation. Over a wide area 20 cm of snow has fallen since Sunday above approximately 1500 m. The southwesterly wind has transported the new snow.

20 to 25 cm of snow will fall until midday. The sometimes strong wind will transport the new snow significantly.

Above the tree line there are 30 to 80 cm of snow, and even more in some localities. At high altitude snow depths vary greatly, depending on the influence of the wind. At low and intermediate altitudes thus far only a little snow is lying.

Tendency

Wednesday: With the easing of the wind, the activity of dry avalanches will slowly increase.