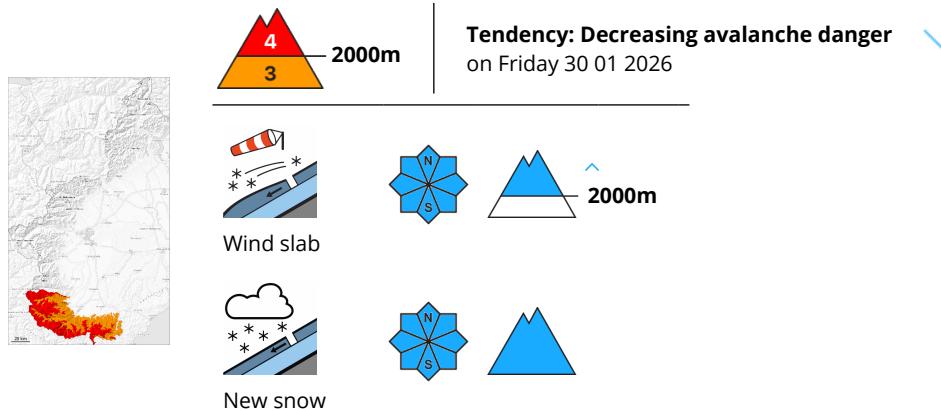


Danger Level 4 - High



The large quantity of fresh snow and the wind slabs represent the main danger.

As a consequence of heavy snowfall and the moderate to strong southwesterly wind, fresh snow drift accumulations formed on Wednesday. These can be released by a single winter sport participant and reach large size. This applies in particular on steep slopes also above approximately 2000 m, as well as in gullies and bowls, and behind abrupt changes in the terrain. The wind slabs are covered with new snow and therefore barely recognisable.

Whumping sounds and the formation of shooting cracks when stepping on the snowpack and natural avalanches are a clear indication of a weakly bonded snowpack.

Large to very large natural avalanches are possible.

Ski touring and other off-piste activities, including snowshoe hiking, call for great caution and restraint.

Snowpack

Danger patterns

dp.6: cold, loose snow and wind

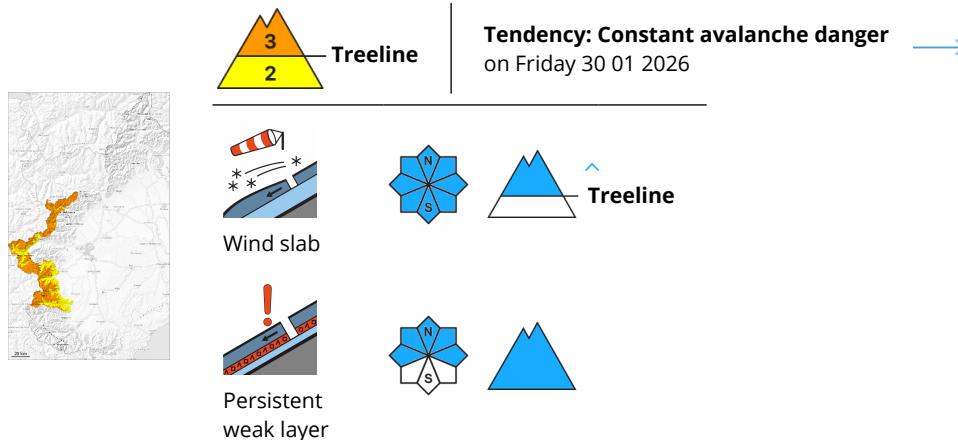
40 to 50 cm of snow, and even more in some localities, fell yesterday in all altitude zones. As a consequence of heavy snowfall and the moderate to strong southwesterly wind, snow drift accumulations formed during the course of the night. The wind has transported the new snow significantly. The new snow and wind slabs are lying on soft layers in particular on wind-protected shady slopes.

Tendency

The weather will be sunny at times. These conditions will facilitate a gradual settling of the snowpack.



Danger Level 3 - Considerable



As a consequence of the northwesterly wind the avalanche prone locations will become more prevalent in the late morning. At elevated altitudes a considerable avalanche danger will prevail.

As a consequence of snowfall and the moderate to strong wind, fresh snow drift accumulations formed on Wednesday. These can in some places be released by a single winter sport participant and reach large size. This applies in particular on steep slopes also in areas close to the tree line, as well as in gullies and bowls, and behind abrupt changes in the terrain at intermediate and high altitudes.

As a consequence of the moderate to strong foehn wind the avalanche prone locations will become more prevalent in the late morning.

Whumping sounds and the formation of shooting cracks when stepping on the snowpack and natural avalanches are a clear indication of a weakly bonded snowpack.

Ski touring and other off-piste activities, including snowshoe hiking, call for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger. Careful route selection and spacing between individuals are recommended.

Snowpack

Danger patterns

dp.6: cold, loose snow and wind

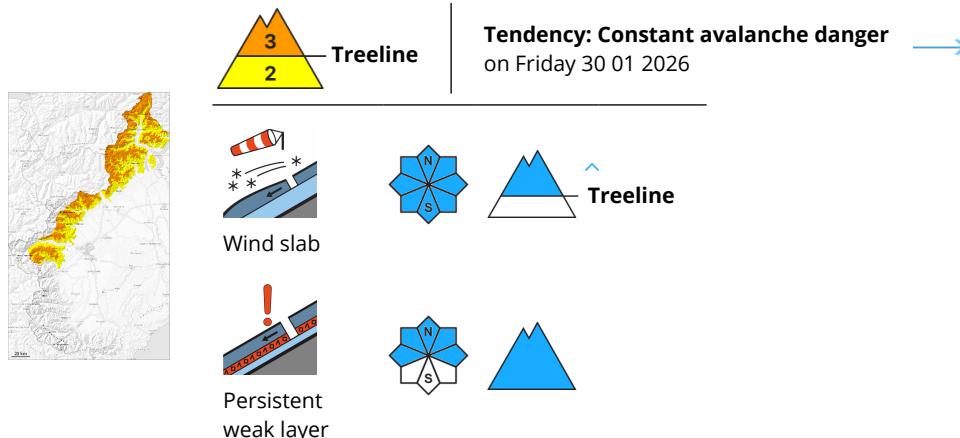
dp.1: deep persistent weak layer

15 to 30 cm of snow, and even more in some localities, fell yesterday in all altitude zones. As a consequence of new snow and a moderate to strong wind from southerly directions, precarious wind slabs formed. The new snow and wind slabs are lying on soft layers in particular on wind-protected shady slopes.

Intermediate and high altitudes: Individual weak layers exist in the bottom section of the snowpack in particular on very steep shady slopes.



Danger Level 3 - Considerable



The fresh snow and the wind slabs represent the main danger.

In particular on steep slopes and adjacent to ridgelines and in pass areas medium-sized and, in isolated cases, large slab avalanches are possible as a consequence of the moderate southerly wind.

The avalanche-prone wind slabs can be released by a single winter sport participant in some cases. The wind slabs are covered with new snow and therefore barely recognisable.

In particular on very steep shady slopes the avalanches can be released in deep layers of the snowpack and reach large size.

Snowpack

Danger patterns

dp.6: cold, loose snow and wind

dp.1: deep persistent weak layer

5 to 15 cm of snow, and even more in some localities, fell yesterday in all altitude zones. The moderate wind has transported the new snow. The fresh wind slabs are lying on unfavourable layers.

Faceted weak layers exist in the snowpack on steep shady slopes.

