

Avalanche danger forecast for Thursday 1/14/2021

AVALANCHE DANGER

From Wednesday afternoon to Thursday evening new snow and strong winds from N-NW -> slabs growing on the whole territory

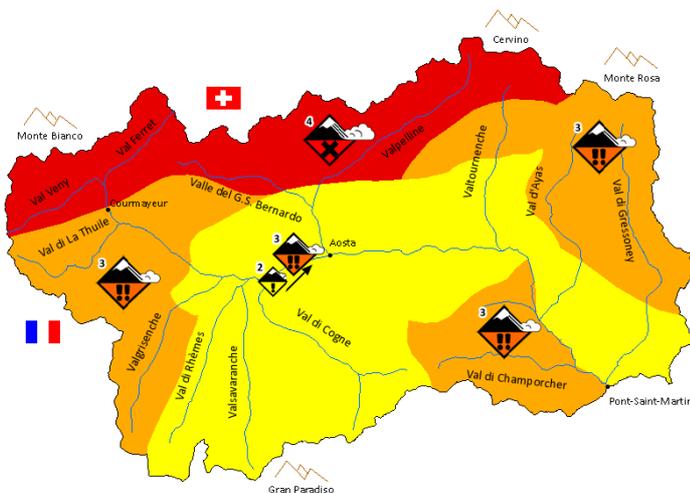
Avalanche problem: wind-drifted snow - wind slabs growing, hard and compacted close to leeward ridges/passes or bumps - on persistent weak layers.

Northern ridge, from Mont Blanc to Cervinia: more new snow in addition to the strong winds.

Here, medium/large slab avalanches are possible; they can affect layers inside the fresh wind-drifted snow or directly the weak persistent basal layers. They can be natural or triggered by the passage of a single skier, above the treeline, on steep slopes, especially close to ridges/passes and slope changes. In individual cases, especially in Val Ferret/Veny, they may have a powder cloud component able to reach the valley floor.

On the remaining territory, be careful to locally assess the wind effects, which are certainly greater where the amounts of recent loose snow are greater (Champorcher, Gressoney, Ayas valleys): new slabs in the leeward areas, able to originate even large avalanches if they involve the weak basal layers. They can be natural or triggered - pay attention at the entrances of channels and basins close to slope changes.

Please note: the slopes in the closed ski-resorts areas are not managed and must therefore be considered as potentially avalanche terrain.



> 2200 m



> 2200 m

AVALANCHE DANGER TREND

Friday 15:



Saturday 16:



Constant on Friday, first clearings in the afternoon with possible local increase in avalanche activity.

On Saturday slightly gradual decrease, less winds and cold temperatures again.

EUROPEAN AVALANCHE DANGER SCALE

↑ Rising avalanche danger during the day



5 VERY HIGH



4 HIGH



3 CONSIDERABLE



2 MODERATE



1 LOW

New snow

30-45 cm of new snow above 2000 m in the valleys along the northern ridge, particularly in the areas of Cervinia, Valpelline and Mont Blanc. A few cm in the remaining territory. Snow level at about 1300 m.

Snowpack

Since Tuesday strong/very strong winds are eroding and redistributing both the old loose snow and the new snow - where present -, with the consequent formation of windloads, even of considerable thickness, which overload the weak basal layers.

Snow cover

Fair, but still scarce in the center of the region and in the Gran Paradiso areas. Almost everywhere, below 2000 m, you can still touch stones or shrubs. Above 2300-2500 m snow is inhomogeneous because of the the wind: bumps and ridges eroded even to the ground, basins and channels with more snow. As you get closer to the ridges/peaks the accumulations are thicker and harder.

Avalanches observed last 24h

Small surface avalanches of loose new snow. Some natural full-depth slabs, medium/large sized, from 2200 m upwards.

Skiability

Powder or windy snow - soft or hard - depending on the area. Continue pay attention to the shallow depths below 2000-2200 m and close ridges and bumps more eroded by the wind.

TYPICAL AVALANCHE PROBLEMS



NEW SNOW



WIND-DRIFTED SNOW



PERSISTENT WEAK LAYERS



WET SNOW



GLIDING SNOW

CRITICAL LOCATIONS



IN BLACK: THE MORE CRITICAL ASPECTS AND ELEVATIONS

Snow and avalanche bulletin n° 45 issued on 1/13/2021 at 04.00 PM

Valid outside the ski runs controlled and managed by the ski resorts.

For an accurate interpretation of the Bulletin, a specific guide is available at www.aineva.it/guida-bollettini/