

Danger Level 2 - Moderate



Tendency: Constant avalanche danger →

on Friday 24 11 2023



Wind slab



Snowpack stability: **poor**

Frequency: **few**

Avalanche size: **medium**

Beware of wind-blown snow pillows!

In the high altitudes (above 2000 m above sea level) of the High Tatras there is still a moderate avalanche danger (2nd degree from the 5-part international scale). The danger is mainly posed by the leeward sides of ridges, steep to extremely steep couloirs (slope above 35°), where strong westerly winds have transported large amounts of snow. Snow pillows and slabs are found in these places, the stability of which is difficult to assess. Their loosening is possible, especially under high additional loads (e.g. foot traffic, skier's fall, etc.). Moderate avalanches can also occur.

At lower altitudes, the snow cover has stabilised due to the previous warming and subsequent cooling. Avalanche danger increases with altitude.

Snowpack

Danger patterns

dp.6: cold, loose snow and wind

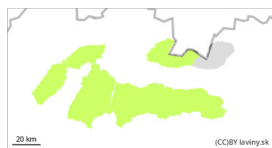
In the High and Western Tatras, the snow cover ranges from 40 to 80 cm from the middle altitudes. The snow is very unevenly distributed due to the wind, on the windward sides it is blown down to the base, and on the leeward slopes (mainly eastern orientations) there are snow pillows and slabs of unbound snow.

At altitudes below 2000 m a.s.l., a brief warming (Tuesday) and subsequent cooling (Wednesday) produced a hard crust on the snow surface, which has a stabilising effect on the snow profile. However, the snow surface is not supportable for pedestrian movement in most places, it is breaking.

Tendency

Steady during Thursday, increasing on Friday with snow and wind.

Danger Level 1 - Low



Tendency: Constant avalanche danger →
on Friday 24 11 2023



Wind slab



Snowpack stability: fair

Frequency: few

Avalanche size: small

Beware of wind-blown snow pillows!

In the Western and Low Tatras and in the Fatras there is a low avalanche danger (1st degree of the 5-part international scale). The danger here is posed by the leeward sides (NE oriented) of ridges (NE oriented) with steep to extremely steep slopes (above 35°) where strong winds have transported large quantities of snow. At these locations there are snow pillows and slabs whose stability is difficult to estimate. Their loosening is possible with high additional loads (e.g. foot traffic, skier's fall, etc.).

In these mountain ranges, the snow cover has stabilised due to the short warming followed by cooling. Avalanche danger increases with altitude.

Snowpack

The height of snow cover in the Fatras is around 10 to 30 cm of snow, in the Low Tatras it is up to 70cm of snow, in the Western Tatras 40-80cm. The snow is very unevenly distributed due to the wind. The ridges are blown into the hard ground. In the lower altitudes below 1300 m above sea level there is no continuous snow cover yet.

On the windward sides the snow is blown down to the subsoil, and on the leeward, east-facing slopes there are snow pillows and slabs of unbound snow.

At altitudes below 2000 m a.s.l., a brief warming (Tuesday) and subsequent cooling (Wednesday) have created a hard crust on the snow surface, which has a stabilising effect on the snow profile. However, the snow surface is not supportable for pedestrian movement in most places, it is becoming slushy.

Tendency

Steady during Thursday, increasing on Friday with snow and wind.