

Gudauri



The forecast sees the first major downgrade since several weeks. We have been waiting for this due to limited information on the deep weak layer in the high alpine. The moderate (2) rating does not imply that the layer is gone, but that is harder to trigger it: more than one skier in some places, one skier in isolated places with steep gradients (ca. 30-35°+) and less than about 1.5 m of snow. When an avalanche releases, it can still reach size 3. The subalpine under 2000 m has now a significantly reduced snow cover, but avalanches can still be triggered on isolated, very steep (ca 35° - 40°+), unsupported terrain features.

Forecast issued at: **25-Mar-2023 19:00**

Forecast valid until: **26-Mar-2023 19:00**

This is a trial avalanche forecasting service run by non-professional volunteers from Gudauri, supported remotely by experienced avalanche forecasters. The information presented here may sometimes be incomplete or inaccurate - do not only rely on this forecast in your safety decisions.

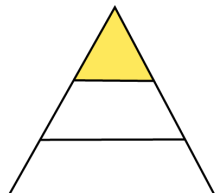
Forecaster: Peter S

Forecast Area

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High Alpine

> 2600m

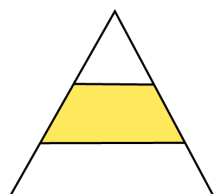


2 Moderate

Heightened avalanche conditions on specific terrain features. Evaluate snow and terrain carefully; identify features of concern.

Alpine

2000m - 2600m

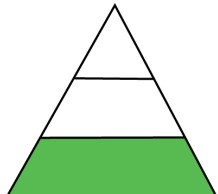


2 Moderate

Heightened avalanche conditions on specific terrain features. Evaluate snow and terrain carefully; identify features of concern.

Sub Alpine

< 2000m



1 Low

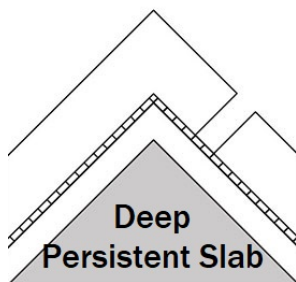
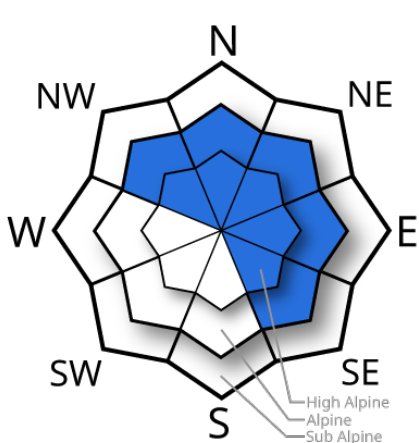
Generally safe avalanche conditions. Watch for unstable snow on isolated terrain features.

Avalanche Problems

Deep Slab

A weak layer, usually at or near the base of the snowpack, that resists bonding to an overlying slab over an extended time period.

In isolated areas, the weak basal layer remains reactive to skiers, particularly in steep, unsupported terrain with a thin snowpack. Triggering an avalanche on this layer is less likely than before, but when it does release, the avalanche will be big (size 3).

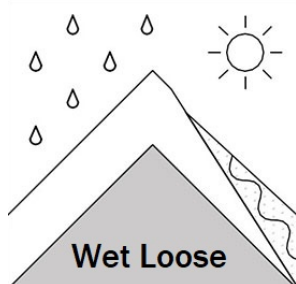
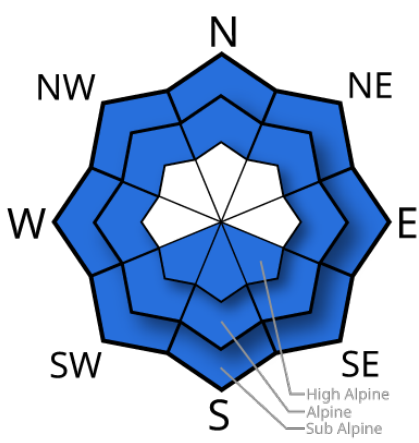


Likelihood	Avalanche Size	Time of Day	Trend
Unlikely	3	All day	No change

Loose Wet

A type of loose snow avalanche composed of wet or moist snow.

With warm temperatures and a moist to wet snowpack reaching into the high alpine loose wet avalanches can occur naturally or can be triggered by a single skier in steep, unsupported terrain - particularly on sun-exposed ("solar") aspects (SW, S, SE).

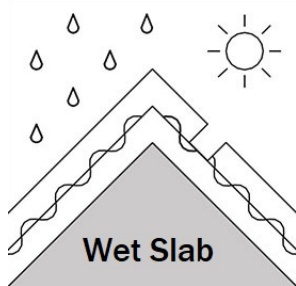
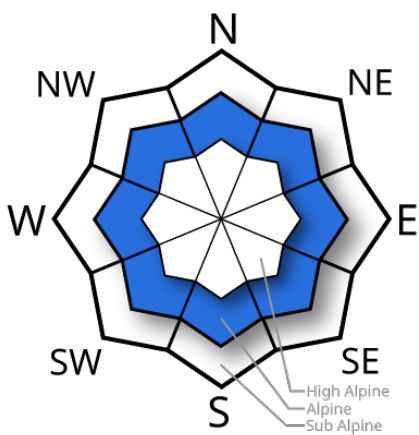


Likelihood	Avalanche Size	Time of Day	Trend
Possible	2	All day	No change

Wet Slab

A thick cohesive slab of snow losing its bond to a weaker layer after becoming damp, moist, or saturated with water.

With continued warm temperatures wet slabs remain possible in isolated places, especially where the snowpack is wet to the bottom.



Likelihood	Avalanche Size	Time of Day	Trend
Unlikely	2	All day	No change

Recent Avalanches and Snowpack

Kudebi, 2990m, N - "whumpf" heard in 110 - 170 cm snowpack. Several small loose wet avalanches on solar aspects in high alpine.

Weather Forecast

Sunday 26 March: Temperatures to 5°C in Gudauri (2200 m) during the day, and 0°C during the night, with light to moderate winds primarily from the SW/S/SE. Light snowfalls to 5 - 10 cm expected. More precipitation is expected in the course of Monday 27 March.