

Forecast Area

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Gudauri

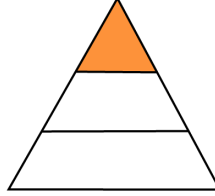


Warm temperatures this weekend with a mix of sun and cloud make wet avalanches a possibility at lower elevations, while at higher elevations a heavier load and more consolidated snow could be re-activating the deep slab problem at the ground. Play it safe this weekend - ride hard, die old!

Forecast issued at: **10-Mar-2023 22:00**
Forecast valid until: **12-Mar-2023 22:00**

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.

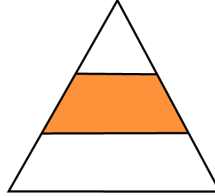
High Alpine
> 2600m



3 Considerable

Dangerous avalanche conditions. Careful snowpack evaluation, cautious route-finding and conservative decision-making essential.

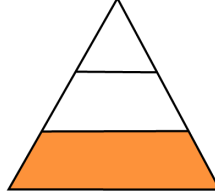
Alpine
2000m - 2600m



3 Considerable

Dangerous avalanche conditions. Careful snowpack evaluation, cautious route-finding and conservative decision-making essential.

Sub Alpine
< 2000m



3 Considerable

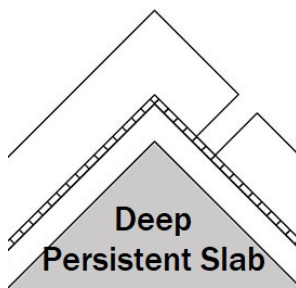
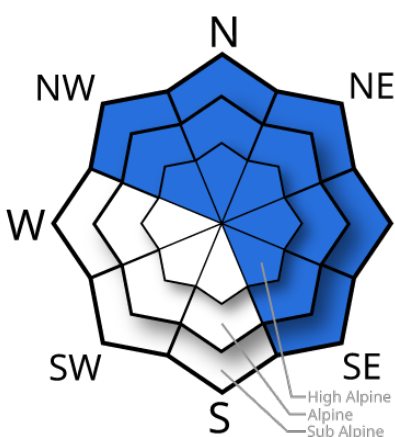
Dangerous avalanche conditions. Careful snowpack evaluation, cautious route-finding and conservative decision-making essential.

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 some areas the basal weak layer remains reactive to skiers and has produced large (size 3) natural avalanches since the last storm. In lower areas (subalpine and possibly alpine), the snowpack will be turning wet throughout the day and avalanches may become wet slabs. The probability of these wet slabs increases midday and afternoon as the temperatures rise.

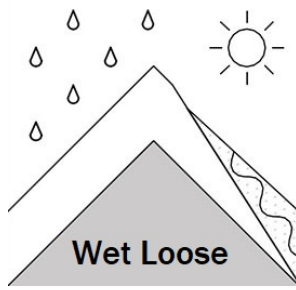
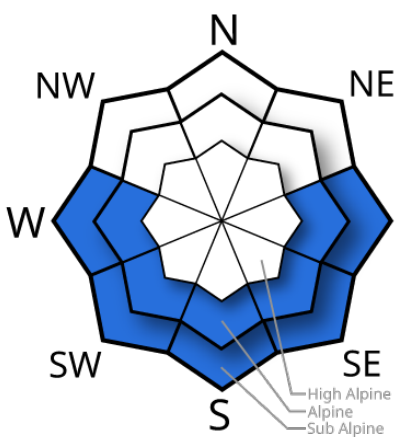


Likelihood	Avalanche Size	Time of Day	Trend
Possible	3	All day	No change

Loose Wet

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

Warm temperatures especially in the afternoon will make wet slides a possibility below about 2600m, in steep sunny places, especially around rocks and steep gullies. These slides could trigger the deep slab layer at ground.

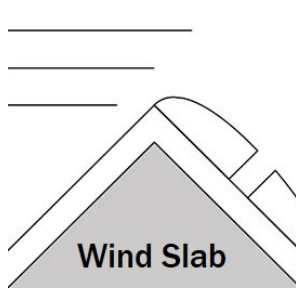
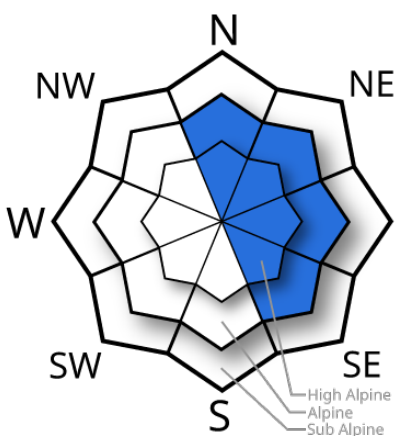


Likelihood	Avalanche Size	Time of Day	Trend
Possible	2	Afternoon	Improving

Wind Slab

A cohesive layer of snow (a slab) formed by the wind drifted snow.

In areas lee to the strong W / SW winds at the end of the storm on March 7th, there may still be areas of wind-deposited snow that could cause slab avalanches. These could be near ridgetops or even lower down in the middle of the slope. The slides could trigger the deep slab layer at ground.



Likelihood	Avalanche Size	Time of Day	Trend
Possible	2	All day	Improving

Recent Avalanches and Snowpack

A lot of recent avalanches have been reported, and it seems the weak layer at ground may be 'waking up' with recent loading from new snow and warming temperatures. Cornices falling and triggering slopes below might also be an issue. Some of the slides stepped down to the ground, and some only involved recent windslab layers. Size 3 avalanches were reported in Kobi valley 10th March, N aspect 3200m and Sioni Valley 8th March, NW aspect 2950m. Size 2 slides were also reported in Lomisa, Dedaena and Miketi areas on March 9th and 10th, and a snowboarder without a beacon was lucky to be found alive after triggering a windslab on the March 8th beside the ski resort near Old Kudubi lift. The snowpack consists of recent storm snow with wind slabs on the NE half. On E, S and W aspects there are sun crusts in the snowpack which can provide a sliding surface. A layer of weak snow exists at the base of the snowpack from NW through NE to SE aspects, at all elevations in the forecast area. Below about 2000m, this layer is becoming moist and slowly gaining strength but it has proved to still be a problem even at low elevations.

Weather Forecast

A few cms of new snow possible overnight for the next two nights, mostly fine days with cloud in the afternoon on Saturday. Winds W to SW changing to S and strengthening at higher elevations. Freezing level 2400m Saturday rising to 2600m Sunday.