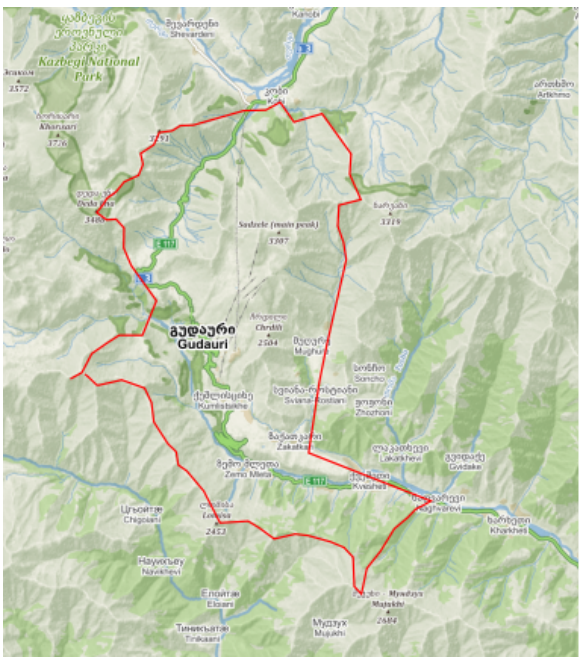


Forecast Area

Gudauri

Strong winds at high elevations shifting from south to north during last 2 days have most likely created a number of wind slabs on all aspects, which remain a problem - especially around ridgelines. A moderate rating is not low - it still means human-triggered avalanches are possible in specific areas. There is also a chance that a small avalanche could trigger the deep slab in isolated areas, so remain careful.

Forecast issued at: **1-Apr-2023 21:00**

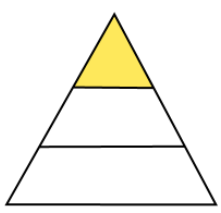
Forecast valid until: **2-Apr-2023 21:00**

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: Petr Zherdev (Snowlab)

High Alpine

> 2600m

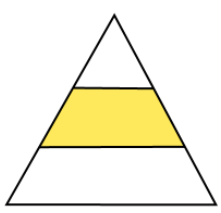


2 Moderate

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

Alpine

2000m - 2600m

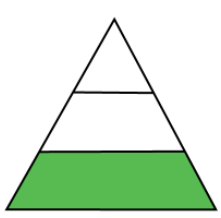


2 Moderate

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

Sub Alpine

< 2000m



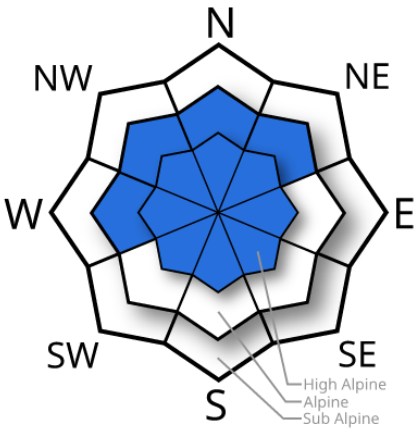
1 Low

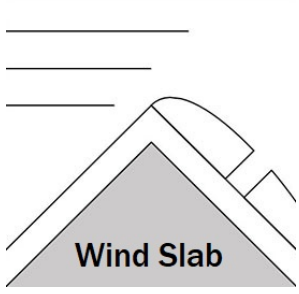
Generally safe avalanche conditions. Watch for unstable snow on isolated terrain features.

Avalanche Problems

Wind Slab

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

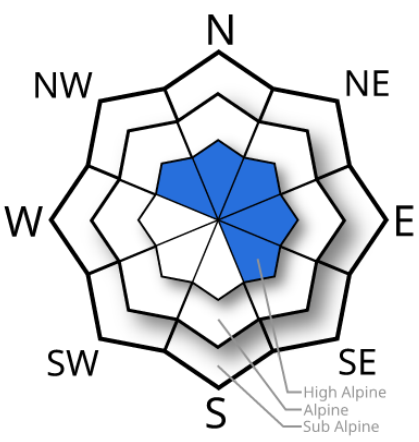


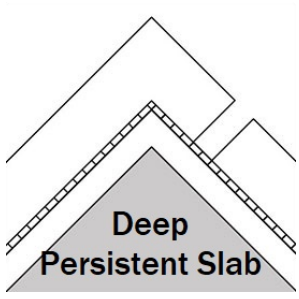


The storm on the 29th-30th of March built slabs that could be up to 1 metre deep on the North half. Winds have later swung to the North so new slabs were also built on S slopes in the high alpine, with 15-20 cm of new snow from the 31st of March moved to these slopes.
Slabs will be more likely found around ridges but could also be found lower down the slope. Watch out for areas that look 'fat', or where the snow feels harder, hollow and drum-like.

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

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.

The persistent weak basal layer might still be triggered in high alpine areas, particularly in steep areas with a shallow (thin) snowpack or around rocks, where the weight of one or more riders, a hard turn or jump, or a small avalanche could break the slab above.

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

Recent Avalanches and Snowpack

Big (size 2-3) slab reported 30th March, Sadzele lower peak, 3200m, N aspect.
Skier triggered windslab Size 1.5 28th March Kobi saddle 2900m NW aspect.
The snowpack still has a weak layer of crystalised snow at the ground in some places, at higher elevations from NW through to E aspects. Above this are strong layers of windpacked, moist and re-frozen snow with no weaknesses of concern reported.
A total of 30 - 40 cm of new snow accumulated after the March 29-30 storm, which were redistributed across all aspects by shifting winds.

Weather Forecast

April 2nd:
No precipitation, cloudy with temperatures from -5C to 3C at 2300 m. (-8C to -3C at 3000 m.)
Moderate NW wind before 12 am. Keep in mind that during last couple of days winds were actually stronger than it was forecasted.