

RiskCheck for cruxes (assessment aid)

Consequences of avalanche release

small: not completely buried, uninjured

large: deep burial, fatal injury

2

How large is the slope above?

<20 m

>100 m

What is below?

smooth runout

terrain trap

Are several persons affected?

suitable

gathering areas

unsuitable

How much snow is released?

<20 cm

>50 cm

Other factors?

escape possible

rescue is difficult

Detailed assessm.

Rough assessment

large

small

high risk



low risk



elevated risk



minor

major

Danger: Release probability

minor: favorable avalanche situation

major: weak snowpack, spontaneous avalanches

1

Avalanche bulletin / danger level

(outside the mentioned locations one level lower)

1 : 2 : 3 : 3+ / 4

Signs of instability

rare

widespread

Track ≤ 30 degrees or
entire slope < 35 degrees



Many existing tracks and/or
frequently travelled



Rough assessment

Consider precautionary measures

Can the probability of triggering an avalanche be reduced?

Choose less steep terrain, avoid large loading, etc.

Can the consequences of an avalanche be reduced?

Travel one at a time through exposed areas, avoid areas with terrain traps, etc.

How effective are the measures?

Combine measures to reduce the risk!

3

4

Evaluate the risk

How big are the uncertainties?

Is the assessment accordingly defensive?

What is the effect of human factors?

Does the risk suit me and the group?

Detailed assessment

Assessment based on avalanche forming processes

Weak layer? Can a failure be initiated

■ ■ ■ ■ (from analyser)

Slab? Does is support crack propagation?

■ ■ ■ ■ (from analyser)

If possible, supplement with

Snowpack stability (snow profile/tests)

good

fair

poor

Is the snowpack homogeneous across the entire slope?

■ ■ ■ ■ (from analyser)

General assessment by: own tracks in untouched terrain, observations and other factors

(favorable / rather fav. / rather unfav. / unfavorable)



Not recommended, choose alternative



May be feasible considering risk reducing measures. Training and experience required! Inexperienced should avoid this area!



Relatively safe at acceptable residual risk

--- The risk doubles continuously between the lines