# Planning of snow and fire safety

Joonas Kortelainen Senior firefighter Ylläs 8.10.2024





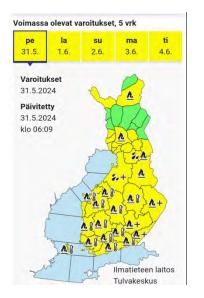
## Goals of the workshop

#### Participant:

- Understands the role of fire safety in outdoor tourism
- Can plan and act to minimize fire hazard
- Can describe snow avalanche hazard
- Knows where additional information and training for avalanche safety can be found



## Wildfire warning









## Fire safety in outdoor activities



OR?

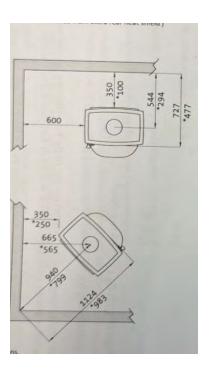


Plan evacuation routes ahead!



# Heat / Fire







## Carbon monoxide



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- Headache
- Dizziness
- Nausea & vomiting
- Loss of consciousness -> death

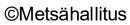




## Fuels









# Extinguishing





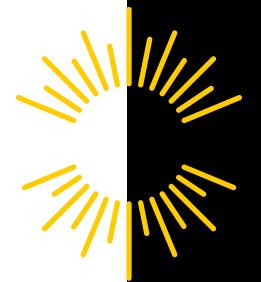






## Avalanche safety - Background

- In Finland four people have died in avalanches in the past 50 years
  - As a culture, we are not used to avalanches being risks
- Incidents and accidents are increasing
  - Popularity of outdoor sports is growing
  - Climate change can increase avalanche hazard in the Arctic







## Avalanches

- Mass of snow slides down steep slope
- Can be naturally triggered
- Often triggered by humans
- Slope needs to be steep enough (>25 degrees)





## Slab avalanche

- Starting zone >25 degrees
- Snow breaks into large chunks
- Large mass
- n. 95% of avalanche accidents

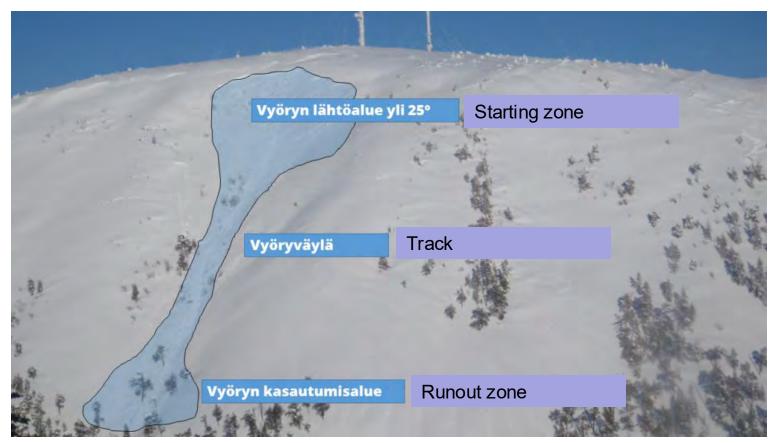
#### Phases of dry avalanche:

- Avalanche triggered
- 2 s, 15 km/h
- 5 s, 40 km/h
- 10 s, 70-130 km/h
- Avalanche slows down, stops and hardens

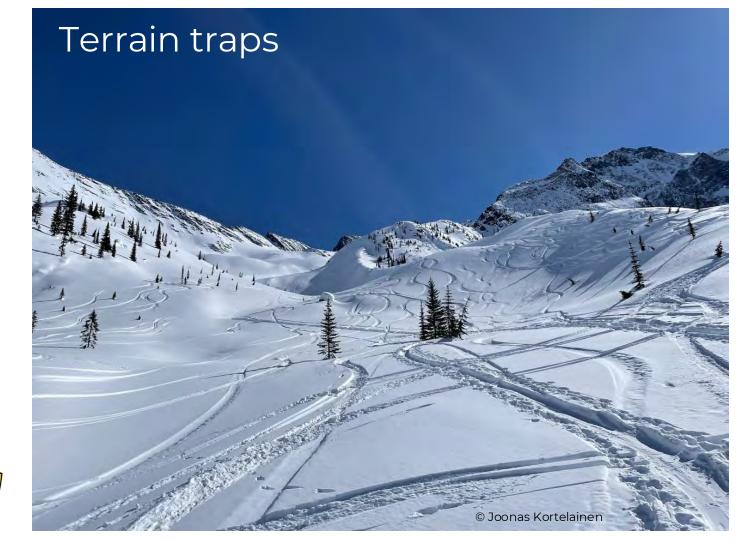








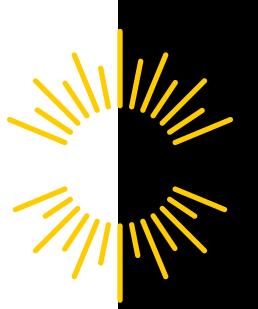






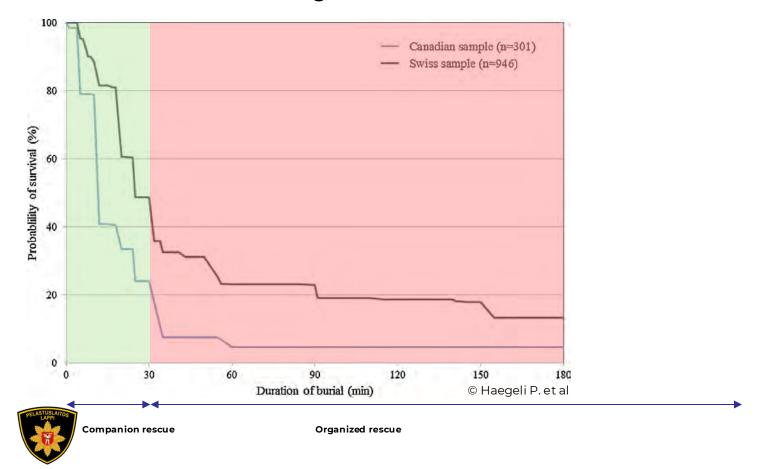
### Avalanche accident

- Majority caused by victim him/herself
  - Freeskier
  - Nordic skier, snowshoer
  - Snowmobiler
  - Pistenbully
- Many freeskiers have training and gear for companion rescue
  - Other recreationalist types often don't
- In Finland most potential avalanche incident locations are hard to reach for the rescue service, and rescue takes time.
  - Planning
  - Training
  - Companion rescue





## Statistics of **fully** buried avalanche victims



Tools for planning and additional training



## Responsibilities of service providers

#### **Duty of care**

According to the duty of care, the service provider is responsible for the safety of the service. The service provider must ensure that the service will not pose a danger to anyone's health or property. The service provider must know their services, and they must have sufficient training, experience and competence to provide the service safely. The personnel must be able to act correctly in all service situations, and especially in case of emergency.

#### Huolellisuusvelvollisuus

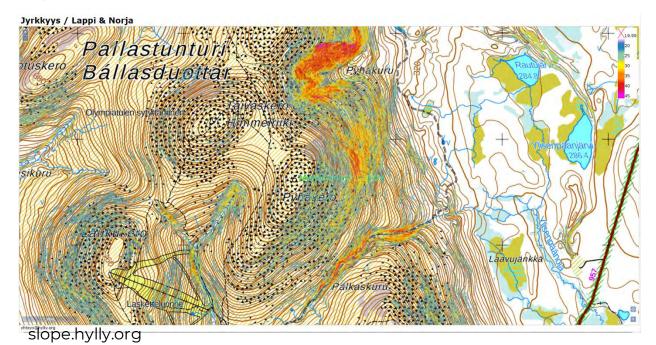
Huolellisuusvelvollisuuden mukaan **palveluntarjoaja vastaa palvelun turvallisuudesta**. Palveluntarjoajan pitää varmistaa, että **palvelu ei aiheuta vaaraa kenenkään terveydelle tai omaisuudelle**.

Palveluntarjoajan on tunnettava palvelunsa, ja hänellä pitää olla riittävä koulutus, kokemus ja osaaminen palvelun järjestämiseksi turvallisesti. Henkilöstön pitää osata toimia oikein kaikissa palvelutilanteissa ja erityisesti hätätilanteissa.

https://tukes.fi/tuotteet-ja-palvelut/kuluttajille-tarjottavat-palvelut/palveluntarjoajan-velvollisuudet

## Do you operate **near** or **in** avalanche terrain?

- Slope >25 degrees, at least 10 x 10m area -> but also downslope area below
- Slope steepness evaluation in the field requires training
- Tools: <a href="https://slope.hylly.org">https://ulko.fi/browser</a> (check label for meaning of colors!)

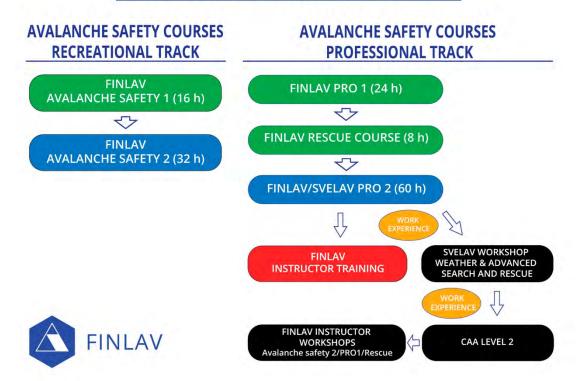




Yes or not sure?



#### **FINLAV Curriculum Tracks**





Finnish Avalanche Education: https://www.ski.fi/lumivyory/

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