

General comments

A nice manuscript. You nicely analyze the usefulness of travel and terrain advises (TTA) in avalanche reports. This study shows, that TTA's are most useful for a wide range of recreationists with an intermediate knowledge level. Novelists may find it helpful but cannot understand TTA's, and for experts it is an information which they have derived from the avalanche report anyway and therefore is not really necessary.

Your paper is well written, easy understandable and very concise. It adds a piece to the knowledge puzzle among avalanche warning services and gives them helpful advices to improve TTA's in their avalanche reports.

I propose hereby some minor revisions as listed below. Since I see this piece of work as relevant I encourage the authors to undertake the suggested revisions.

Specific comments

Line 25-28: It is true, that information on winter backcountry participation is sparse. However, one study shows at least numbers from Switzerland: (Winkler, Fischer, & Techel, 2016).

Line 46-49: I suggest to also mention the 'avalanche prone locations' and the 'danger description' in the information pyramid.

Line 86-94: Up to my knowledge in Europe, some regions/countries (e.g. Italy) have strong concerns using TTA due to legal consequences of such direct and clear advises. It would be nice, if you mention this aspect here.

Line 217: Is there any reason to exclude folks younger than 20 years old? If yes, could you mention it?

Line 220/221 and 223/24: years of backcountry experience is excluded twice.

Line 525/526: The effort in education is probably not only addressed to avalanche warning services but more general to avalanche prevention institutions.

Line 551/552: In addition, I guess that the TTA is too simple for avalanche professionals – it may guide them to limited. Avalanche professionals most probably derive a whole set of TTA's from the bulletin.

Limitations, Line 613 ff: In my eyes an important limitation of such online survey is, that one only reaches recreationists with a minimal awareness of avalanche risk management. People with no or very few avalanche awareness, who do not look at avalanche reports, are most probably not reached which such surveys. Or did you reach them by Social media probably more than in past? However, I guess there is a bias towards more educated recreationists. Anyway, it would be nice to give a bit more attention to this aspect.

Technical notes

Line 172: who instead of how?

References

Winkler, K., Fischer, A., & Techel, F. (2016). Avalanche risk in winter backcountry touring: Status and recent trends in Switzerland. In E. Greene (Ed.), *International Snow Science Workshop 2016, Proceedings* (pp. 270-276). Breckenridge, CO.