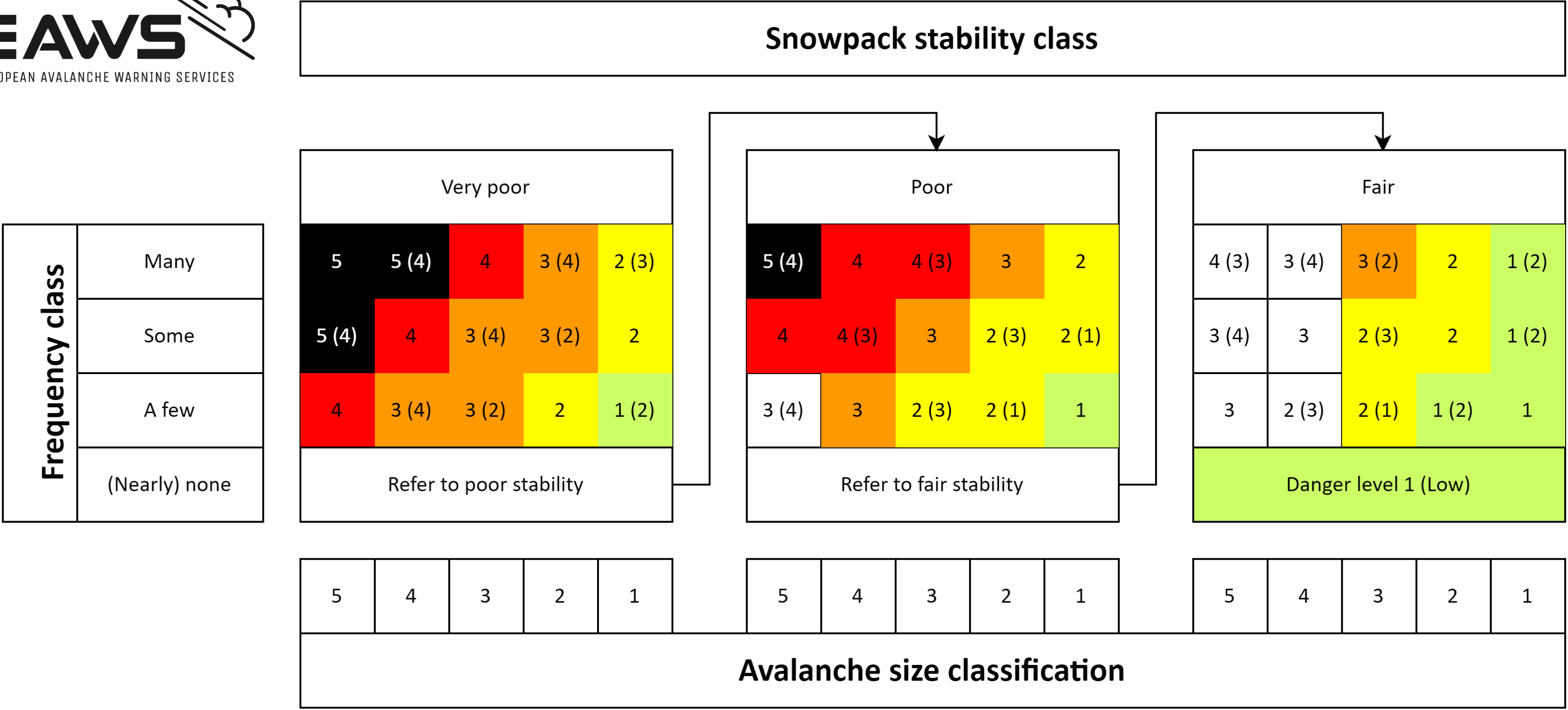
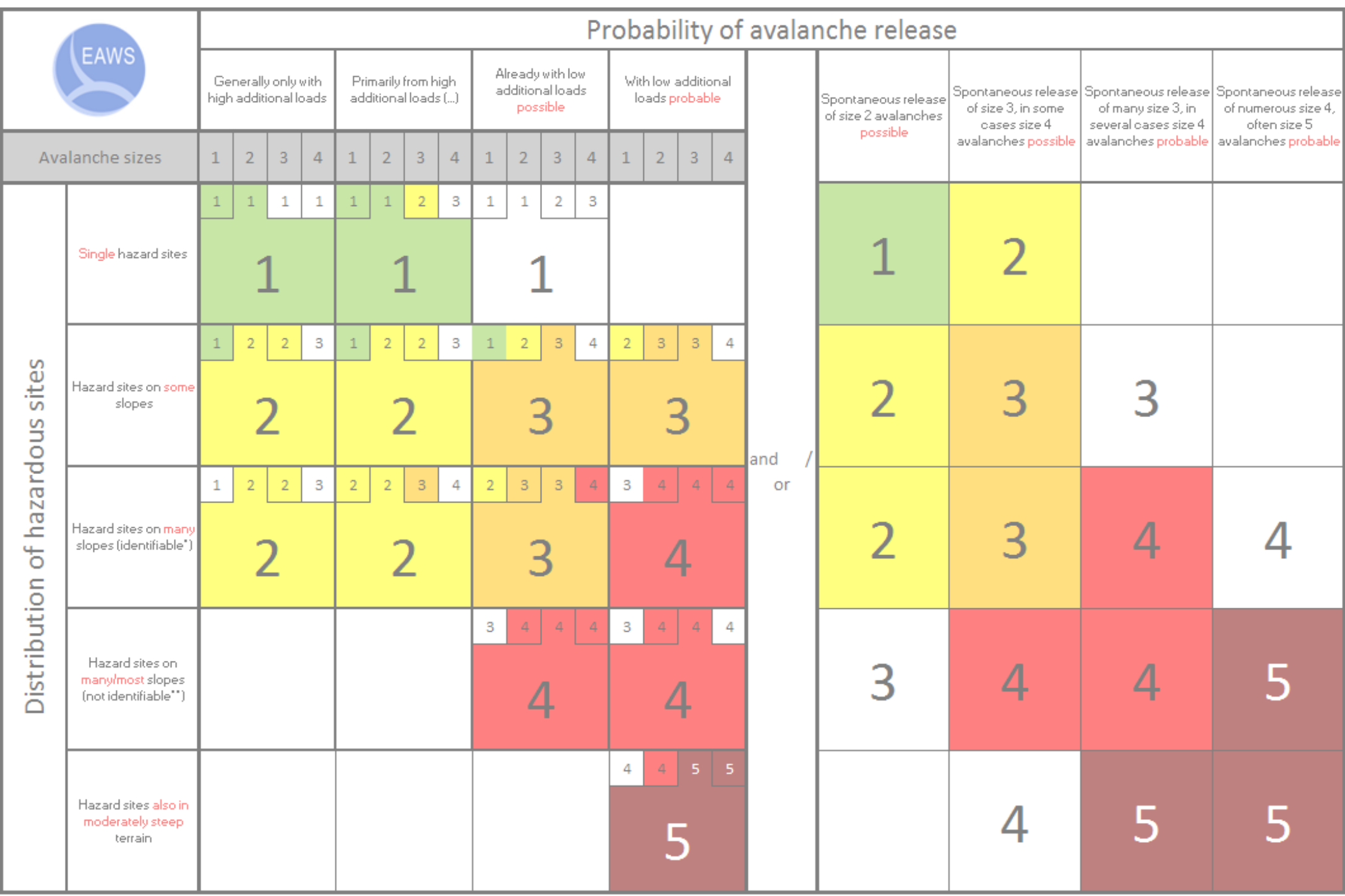


## EAWS-Matrix (2022)



## EAWS-Matrix (2017)



\*) Specifiable with respect to altitude, exposition and/or relief

\*\*) The hazard sites are too numerous or too diffusely distributed to be specifiable with respect to altitude, exposition and/or relief.

↑ The revised **EAWS-Matrix** provides the current **expert-based consensus concerning the danger level** for each combination of snowpack stability, frequency distribution of snowpack stability, and avalanche size. To be updated at the next GA.

It is in the nature of expert judgments, that there will be variations between them, as can also be seen when comparing the **matrix responses by country**. ↓

## Snowpack stability classes

Stability class	How easy is it to trigger an avalanche?
very poor	natural / very easy to trigger
poor	easy to trigger (e.g., a single skier)
fair	difficult to trigger (e.g., explosives)
good	stable conditions

## Frequency classes

Frequency class	Description	Evidence (e.g., observations)
many	Points with this stability class are abundant.	Evidence for instability is often easy to find.
some	Points with this stability class are neither many nor a few, but these points typically exist in terrain features with common characteristics (i.e., close to ridgelines, in gullies).	
a few	Points with this stability class are rare. While rare, their number is considered relevant for stability assessment.	Evidence for instability is hard to find.
none or nearly none	Points with this stability class do not exist, or they are so rare that they are not considered relevant for stability assessment.	

## Avalanche size classes

Size	Name	Destructive potential
1	Small	Unlikely to bury a person, except in run out zones with unfavorable terrain features (e.g., terrain traps).
2	Medium	May bury, injure, or kill a person.
3	Large	May bury and destroy cars, damage trucks, destroy small buildings and break a few trees.
4	Very large	May bury and destroy trucks and trains. May destroy fairly large buildings and small areas of forest.
5	Extreme	May devastate the landscape and has catastrophic destructive potential.

