

## Greenpeace study: Plausibility check of FIS emissions from events

### Summary

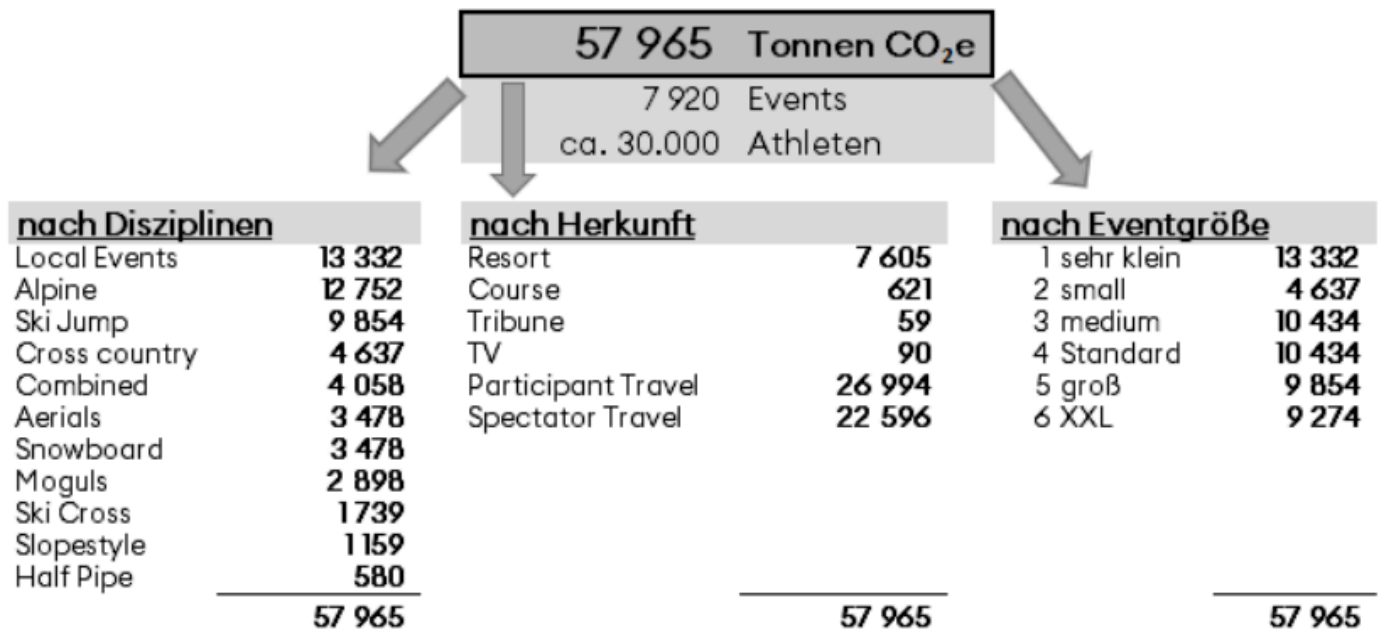
- The International Ski Federation - Fédération Internationale de Ski (FIS) - announced in a press release in November 2021 that it is „climate positive.“ However, there are no further details available regarding the background, approach, CO2 reduction plans, or specific measures.
- An open letter, initiated by Austrian ski racer Julian Schütter, primarily called for transparency from FIS. The letter has now garnered support from over 500 international FIS athletes.
- As a response, the FIS published an **executive summary**<sup>1</sup> providing data on the emissions calculations for all FIS events.
- Greenpeace has commissioned „Mission Zero - Klimapartner“ which specializes in assessing CO2 footprints, to evaluate these emissions calculations. To verify their plausibility, Mission Zero replicated the FIS calculation tool. The data generated using the FIS calculator tool and standardized calculation software were checked for individual and overall plausibility based on the expertise of athletes, insiders, and information from World Cup venues.
- Mission Zero's evaluation focuses on the emissions from four major events, as well as the flights of athletes and the travel activities of spectators during the Alpine Ski World Cup.
- Here is the comprehensive study: <https://act.gp/3Mbq8VN>

### Overview of FIS Event CO2 Emissions

It can be stated upfront that the FIS, with its executive summary on event emissions and the published accessible data, fails to provide a transparent and comprehensible assessment. All calculations, evaluations, derivations, and cross-checks indicate an implausible and underestimated overall evaluation of emissions.

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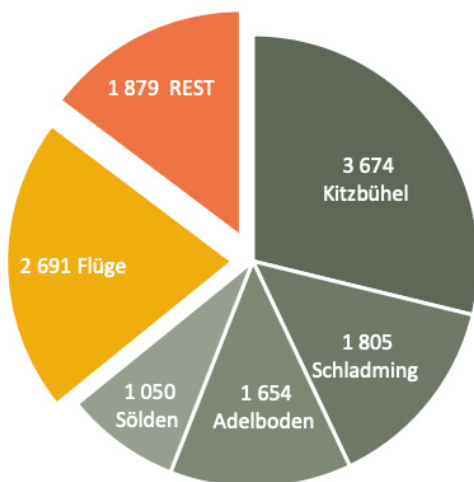
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## Most important results from the study

### 1. Total Emissions from Alpine Ski Events

The FIS reports total emissions of 12,752 tonnes of CO2 equivalent for the discipline of „Alpine Skiing.“

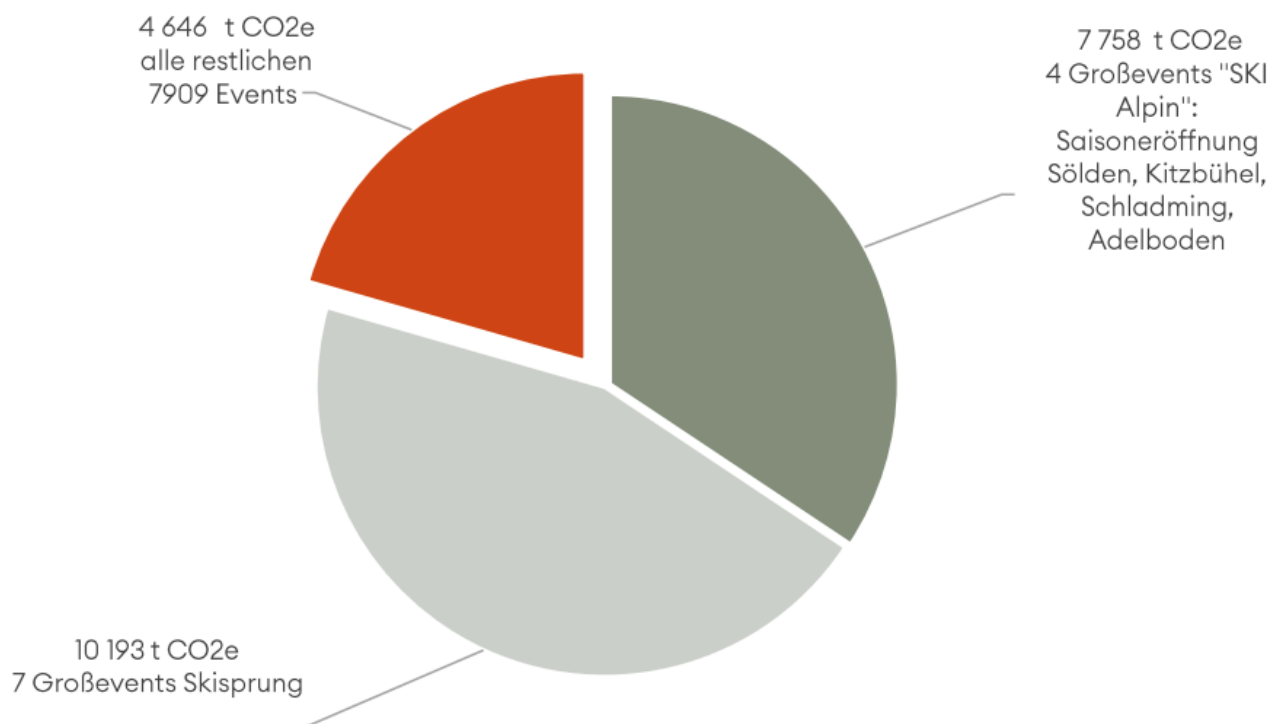


However, recalculations using the FIS internal calculation tool reveal that the four major events in **Kitzbühel, Schladming, Adelboden, and Sölden**, as well as athlete flights (at the World Cup level), **account for 85 percent of the total emissions** attributed to the Alpine Skiing sector.

**Conclusion:** It is not plausible to assume that the remaining 15 percent of emissions would be sufficient to account for the numerous other Alpine Ski events (over 30 World Cup events, over 300 continental events, and hundreds of smaller race events), especially considering that the dominant factors are the emissions from spectator travel, which have not been included in this calculation.

**Therefore, it can be assumed that the Alpine Ski emissions from all events would amount to a multiple of the reported 12,752 tonnes of CO2e.**

## 2. Spectator Travel Emissions for All Disciplines



For a total of 7,920 events in a season across all disciplines, the FIS reports 22,596 tonnes of emissions from spectator travel. When these numbers are tried to be verified using the FIS calculation tool, a similar result is obtained as with Alpine Skiing: After just four calculated ski World Cup events and seven ski jumping events, 82 percent of the total emissions are „consumed.“

If we examine the spectator travel with plausible figures, even higher emissions are calculated. The FIS assumes that 60 percent of spectators travel locally. However, upon reevaluation, it becomes clear that traveling less than 50 km each way, as assumed for local travel, is not realistic for major events like Schladming or Kitzbühel. In a more plausible calculation, such as considering local trips of around 200 km round trip and reducing the share of local travel to 40 percent, the CO2 balance of spectator travel alone would increase by approximately 50 percent (see Example Kitzbühel 6.1.1. of the analysis).

**Conclusion:** Therefore, it can be concluded that the total number of travel emissions from spectators is likely to be much higher.

## 3. Unaccounted or Insufficiently Considered Emissions in the FIS Evaluation

Furthermore, the FIS's own calculations for events lack basic data, and some important factors appear to be overlooked. Due to the lack of transparency, this can only be assumed. Examples of this include:

- Insufficient consideration of the number of participants in athlete travel.
- Exclusion of European teams' training camps in South America.
- Exclusion of floodlights, such as those in Schladming.

- Underestimation of the share of emissions from slope preparation, failing to account for auxiliary personnel and snow transportation.
- Lack of mention of waste in any of the reports.
- Exclusion of athletes' accommodation and meals.
- Lack of transparent information regarding the amount of energy consumed.

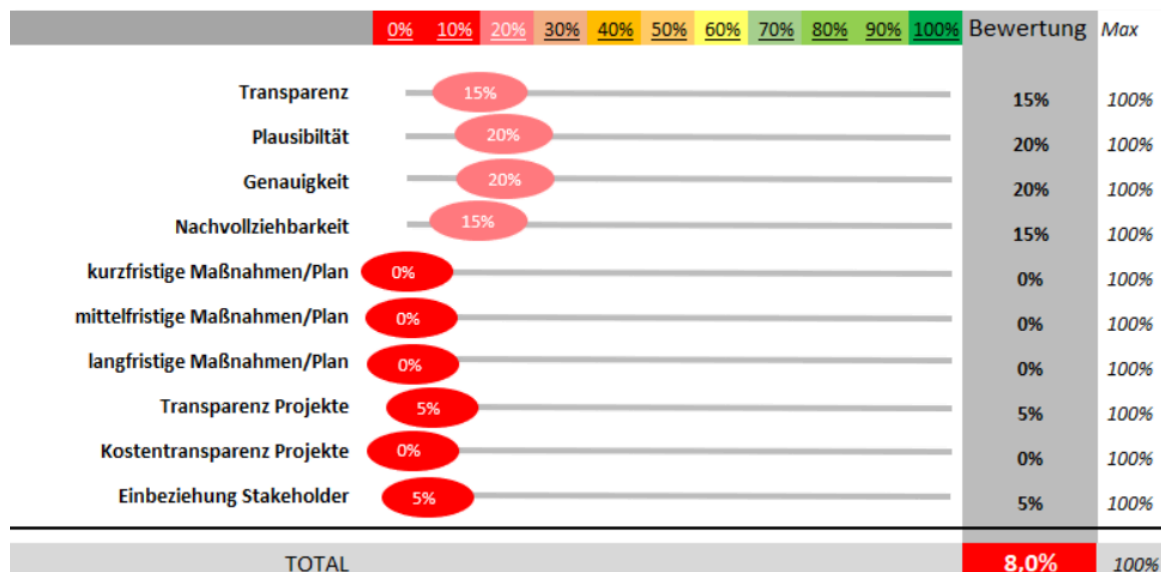
#### 4. FIS's Claim of Being „Climate Positive“

While the FIS publicly claims to be „climate positive“<sup>2</sup> there is little to no information available on how the FIS has achieved this goal. The FIS website does not provide any further information on this topic. Greenpeace's inquiry to Cool Earth, the official partner of the FIS for carbon offsetting, co-founded by FIS President Johan Eliasch, received no response.

In general, there has to be a shift in the approach to emissions: The focus needs to be on promoting emission reduction rather than compensating for them.

#### 5. Final Evaluation

We would evaluate the key criteria as follows, summarized on a scale of 0 to 100, with 100 being the highest score:



#### Greenpeace's demands to FIS President Eliasch include:

1. Transparent and traceable reporting of CO2 emissions.
2. Putting an end to carbon offsetting.
3. Implementation of an effective plan to reduce CO2 emissions.
4. Adaptation of the winter season to weather conditions and a later start to the season.
5. Redesigning the race calendar to minimize the need for travel.

These demands aim to promote transparency, prioritize emission reduction over offsetting, and address the environmental impact of winter sports events.