

# Avalanche News

## of the Avalanche Warning Service Tyrol

Thursday, 01.11.2012, at 08:52



### Beware full depth snowslides, high alpine and ridgeline slab avalanches after the snowfall!

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#### **AVALANCHE DANGER**

Following snowfall in autumn, caution is urged particularly towards the danger of full depth snowslides on steep, grass covered slopes. This danger also occurs frequently at lower and medium altitudes where snow can easily be triggered across the relatively warm ground. At the time of reporting, this is the case in southern East Tyrol more than anywhere else, where there has already been 30 cm of new fallen snow and further snowfall is expected over the course of the day. In high alpine regions, on the other hand, the interaction of snowfall and wind can bring about snowdrift accumulations in very steep, wind-protected areas adjacent to ridgelines. These avalanche prone locations can be easily discerned by experienced winter skiers; moreover, they tend to stabilize rapidly in this season as soon as the snowfall and wind come to an end. From craggy terrain, loosely packed snow avalanches are observed frequently after snowfall.

#### **SNOW LAYERING**

The snowfall from October which remained on the ground in high alpine regions has not yet become faceted to an alarming extent. Thus, the new fallen snow can bond adequately with the old snowpack. For that reason, the threat of fresh slab avalanches is to be found only in high alpine regions where there is new fallen snow, especially at the borderline between cold, loosely packed fresh snow and the snowdrift which has been deposited on top of it. In those places, the snowpack can be readily unleashed, at least in very steep terrain. On steep, grass covered slopes, the moister the ground is, the more likely the snowpack will release.

#### **ALPINE WEATHER FORECAST (ZAMG-WEATHER SERVICE INNSBRUCK)**

Mountain weather today: a large amount of snow is to be encountered in East Tyrol, particularly towards the Carnic Alps; there is also fresh fallen snow in the Central Alps. Mountain weather in the Northern Alps and Upper Inn Valley, as well as on the Main Alpine Ridge, is expected to turn more pleasant as of midday. Temperature at 2000 m: minus 1 to plus 2 degrees; at 3000 m, minus 4 degrees. Moderate strength southeasterly to southwesterly winds. Weather in general: Following the precipitation, conditions on Thursday will improve temporarily; in East Tyrol, the disturbances will last longer. On Thursday night, a cold snap will pass through swiftly, following which conditions will again improve. On Saturday, foehn wind.

#### **SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT**

Frequent full depth snowslides are expected for a short spell. Then the hazards will quickly recede.

#### **DANGER PATTERNS (GM)**

[gm.2 - sliding snow](#)

[gm.6 - cold, loose, new fallen snow and wind](#)

Patrick Nairz

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe