



DANGER PATTERNS (DP): [dp.6 - cold, loose, new fallen snow and wind](#); [dp.1 - deep persistent weak layer](#); [dp.2 - sliding snow](#)

Ongoing treacherous situation

AVALANCHE DANGER

A delicate and dangerous situation prevails in Tirol's backcountry touring regions, the hazards are considerable regionally, i.e. in the uppermost reaches of Danger Level 3. The major threat stems from the freshly drifted masses of snow, which can be triggered as avalanches even by one sole person, i.e. a single skier. Avalanche prone locations are found on wind loaded and ridgeline slopes in all aspects. Attention: new trigger-sensitive snowdrift will accumulate ongoingly during the day today. In the areas with the heaviest snowfall (East Tirol, southern Ötztal and Stubai Alps) isolated naturally triggered loosely packed avalanches and full depth snowslides can be expected.

SNOW LAYERING

The southerly foehn wind rose up again to above transport strength yesterday, during the night it intensified further to strong-to-stormy velocity, further whipping up the fresh fallen snow from the holidays. These new, and also the old, snowdrift accumulations have frequently been deposited atop a loosely packed and trigger sensitive old snow cover. Thus, avalanches can still be released with ease.

ALPINE WEATHER FORECAST (ZAMG-WEATHER SERVICE INNSBRUCK)

Weather in general: Tirol lies at the forefront of a storm low centered north of the British Isles in the path of a powerful southwesterly current. It will bring us a cold front on Sunday. Mountain weather today: to some extent very stormy conditions, particularly in the typical foehn lanes and mountains. At the same time, lots of sunshine and only high altitude cloudbanks which will not impede the light. This afternoon, temperatures will begin to recede. In the Southern Alps, clouds will move in. Temperature at 2000m: +2 degrees; at 3000m: -4 degrees. Strong to stormy southerly to southwesterly winds at high altitudes.

SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

The forecast snowfall and wind will make the treacherous avalanche situation persist.

Rudi Mair

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe