



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

Generally moderate danger, caution on very steep, shady ridgeline slopes

AVALANCHE DANGER

The avalanche danger in the southern regions where snowfall was heaviest has subsided to moderate. In the furthestmost northern regions above approximately 2000m the danger level is moderate, below that altitude it is low. Avalanche prone locations are found in very steep, shady terrain. Particularly around the treeline, caution towards fresh snowdrift is imperative in ridgeline terrain. In transition areas from shallow to deep snow a slab avalanche can be released by minimum additional loading; elsewhere large additional loading is required. Above about 2500m in extremely steep terrain of all aspects, large additional loading can trigger small slab avalanches. In the regions of East Tirol where snowfall was heaviest, full depth snowslides are a hazard at low and intermediate altitudes. Avoid areas below glide cracks whenever possible.

SNOW LAYERING

The snow cover is reducing its inner tensions. On shady slopes above approximately 1600m the old snowpack is becoming increasingly faceted with embedded melt-freeze crusts, but stability tests have demonstrated that it is less likely to trigger. Moreover, whumping noises and glide cracks have all but disappeared. Above about 2500m there is still depth hoar in all aspects, atop of which a well-compacted, wind-influenced or sun-influenced snowpack blanketed by new fallen snow rests. For that reason, trigger sensitivity is found mostly in extremely steep terrain. Fresh snowdrift near ridgelines deposited on top of loosely packed new fallen snow is sensitive. The surface frequently evidences widespread surface hoar including graupel grains.

ALPINE WEATHER FORECAST (ZAMG-WEATHER SERVICE INNSBRUCK)

Mountain weather today: clement, quiet conditions, sunshine will dominate despite high altitude cirrus cloud, more cloud in the Lechtal Alps this morning. Temperature at 2000m: -2 degrees; at 3000m: -8 degrees. Moderate westerly winds.

SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

No significant change to begin with. Fresh snowdrift will accumulate on shady ridgeline slopes.

Patrick Nairz

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe