



DANGER PATTERNS (DP): [dp.6 - cold, loose, new fallen snow and wind](#); [dp.4 - cold following warm / warm following cold](#); [dp.8 - surface hoar blanketed with snow](#)

Precarious situation continues, considerable danger widespread

AVALANCHE DANGER

Avalanche danger above about 1700m remains considerable and treacherous, below that altitude generally moderate. Avalanches can be released in all aspects in steep terrain above the treeline even by minimum additional loading, as has been demonstrated by numerous avalanches triggered by skiers in recent days. The source of the peril lies in the snowdrift which was deposited over the weekend, on the one hand; and in the newer snowdrift which was created yesterday. At higher altitudes and in high alpine shady terrain adjacent to ridgelines this snowdrift can naturally trigger small to medium sized slab avalanches. In southern East Tirol, in addition, caution is urged towards full depth snowslides at low and intermediate altitudes. Our advice is: defensive conduct in the mountains, avoid steep slopes.

SNOW LAYERING

Many snow analyses and profiles have recently been conducted for the avalanche commission, for which a military helicopter was used. The most problematic zones currently lie in the uppermost layers of the snow cover, where surface hoar, on the one hand, and layers of faceted snow crystals around melt-freeze crusts, on the other, provide perfect bed surfaces for slab avalanches. In addition, the cold, loosely packed fresh fallen snow has above the treeline been massively transported by the winds. Snowdrift is poorly bonded to the loosely packed powder beneath it, making it highly prone to triggering!

ALPINE WEATHER FORECAST (ZAMG-WEATHER SERVICE INNSBRUCK)

Mountain weather today: North of the Main Alpine Ridge the peaks are seldom blanketed in fog. Cloudbanks will pass through, intermittent sunshine is possible. On the Main Alpine Ridge, clouds are lodged against the alpine barrier; as of midday, intermittent snowfall is anticipated. Southwards, intermittent snowfall this morning, heavier and more persistent this afternoon. Temperature at 2000m: -7 to -2 degrees; at 3000m -12 to -7 degrees. In high alpine regions and foehn lanes, strong to storm velocity southerly winds.

SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

Due to heavy snowfall and wind, avalanche danger will increase in southern regions.

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