



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

Below 2000m moderate, above 2000m considerable danger

AVALANCHE DANGER

Avalanche peril in Tirol's backcountry touring regions has become contingent on altitude: below 2000m it is moderate, above 2000m it is considerable from region to region. In high alpine regions, caution is urged especially towards freshly formed, relatively small-sized snowdrift accumulations: they are quite prone to triggering, avalanches can usually be released even by minimum additional loading, i.e. the weight of one sole skier. Avalanche prone locations are found mainly in ridgeline areas in all aspects. Below about 2000m full depth snowslides can still be naturally triggered, particularly in the regions of East Tirol where snowfall has recently been heaviest and along the Main Alpine Ridge.

SNOW LAYERING

A far reaching reconnaissance flight over East Tirol in a military helicopter yesterday brought the following conclusions: the enormous masses of new fallen snow from last weekend have settled intensely and consolidated accordingly. Avalanche activity is minimal, only full depth snowslides were observed. Snow analysis showed quite stable snow layering. Somewhat less favourable is the snow layering in North Tirol, where there are frequent layers of loosely packed, faceted snow crystals interspersed between hardened layers. In addition, the strong to storm-force foehn winds are still accumulating fresh snowdrift which is often poorly bonded with the old snowpack surface.

ALPINE WEATHER FORECAST (ZAMG-WEATHER SERVICE INNSBRUCK)

Weather in general: A powerful southwesterly airstream reigns; a cold front will arrive from the west this afternoon and withdraw Friday night. On Saturday, a further low pressure front will reach the British Isles, sending at its forefront another round of foehn-winds to the Alps. Mountain weather today: foehn storms in the mountains exceeding 100 km/h in some places, cloudbanks permitting adequate visibility in the Northern Alps this morning (east of the Karwendel, intermittently sunny) cloud cover moving in this afternoon leading to light to moderate snowfall spreading out from the Main Alpine Ridge (initially rainfall below 1500-2000m). Temperature at 2000m 0 degrees; at 3000m -3 degrees. Strong to storm-force southerly to southwesterly winds.

SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

Below 2000m moderate, above 2000m considerable danger

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