



DANGER PATTERNS (DP): [dp.6 - cold, loose, new fallen snow and wind](#); [dp.2 - sliding snow](#); [dp.4 - cold following warm / warm following cold](#)

Above about 2100m, considerable danger persists, beware fresh snowdrift

AVALANCHE DANGER

Avalanche danger is slowly receding, but above 2100m is still considerable. Below that altitude the danger level is often moderate; in northeastern regions below about 1600m it is low. The major peril stems from recently formed snowdrift accumulations. Danger zones where slab avalanches can be triggered are frequently found in very steep ridgeline terrain in all aspects and on very steep W to N to E facing slopes above 2100m. In southern East Tirol, in addition, caution is urged towards fresh snowdrift on south facing slopes, where even minimum additional loading can trigger avalanches. The proneness to the snowpack triggering tends to increase with ascending altitude. In high alpine zones (above 3000m) on very steep, shady slopes, isolated hard slab avalanches can be released. In southern regions where the snowfall was heaviest, full depth snowslides are possible on steep, grass-covered slopes, usually announced by glide cracks in the snowpack surface: avoid areas beneath them.

SNOW LAYERING

In southern East Tirol there was an additional 30cm of snowfall. Elsewhere the snowpack above the treeline is heavily impacted by wind: hardened crusts, irregular layering, drifted zones alternate continually. A bed surface for potential slab avalanches is the loosely packed new fallen snow, now blanketed by the most recent snowdrift. On sunny slopes, layers of faceted snow crystals around 2300m are also possible bed surfaces, but less likely. Depth hoar near the ground is generally well bonded with the surrounding layers, probably only trigger sensitive at higher altitudes through large additional loading (or artificial triggering).

ALPINE WEATHER FORECAST (ZAMG-WEATHER SERVICE INNSBRUCK)

Mountain weather today: dense clouds passing through, northern peaks in fog, light snow showers. This afternoon, swiftly improving conditions from the west, rising temperatures, lots of sunshine, but cold northerly wind in the Southern Alps. Temperature at 2000m: -6 degrees; at 3000m: -12 degrees. Brisk to strong northwesterly winds.

SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

Ongoing caution urged towards fresh snowdrift

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