



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

Mostly moderate, isolated spots of considerable danger

AVALANCHE DANGER

The avalanche danger level is currently dominated by freshly formed snowdrift accumulations, most frequent in southern East Tirol above the treeline as well as in high altitude ridgeline terrain in general. The hazards there are considerable; elsewhere they are moderate; in northern regions below about 1600 m, low. With the ability to read wind indications, avalanche prone locations are easy to recognize. They are found most often on ridgeline slopes in all aspects, distant from ridgelines in E to SW to S facing slopes. It is possible to trigger the snowpack down to deeply embedded layers by large additional loading in very steep terrain where the snow is shallow on north facing slopes above approximately 2400 m, in other aspects above approximately 2800 m. In the southern regions where snowfall has been heaviest, caution is still required towards full depth snowslides on steep, grass-covered slopes; they can reach medium size.

SNOW LAYERING

Wide-ranging snow analysis over the last few days has confirmed an increasing stability in the snowpack. The most perilous intersection is the borderline between the loosely packed powder and fresh snowdrift, especially the drifted masses which formed yesterday in southern East Tirol and at high altitudes in particular. Other weakly bonded layers also exist inside the snowpack, but they are better bonded with the surrounding layers. Where the snow is shallow, large additional loading could release an avalanche.

ALPINE WEATHER FORECAST (ZAMG-WEATHER SERVICE INNSBRUCK)

Mountain weather today: increasingly diffuse light, thinly spread cloud cover, initially above the summits but dropping to lower altitudes during the course of the day, later on some snowfall widespread from the west. In ridgeline terrain, windy. Temperature at 2000m: -2 degrees; at 3000m: -5 degrees. Brisk to strong westerly to southwesterly winds, gusts reaching storm force.

SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

Strong winds will bring about new snowdrift accumulations.

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Translated by Jeffrey McCabe