



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

Full depth snowslides, fresh ridgeline snowdrift are still main dangers

AVALANCHE DANGER

Avalanche danger in southern regions where snowfall has been heaviest is moderate in general; further to the north above approximately 2000m, it is moderate; below that altitude, low. The heightened danger levels also result from the threat of full depth snowslides on W to S to E facing grassy slopes at low and intermediate altitudes of southern regions. The huge snow masses there can reach at least medium size. Areas below glide cracks should be avoided whenever possible. Elsewhere, danger zones are found mostly in very steep, shady ridgeline terrain (in high alpine regions in all aspects) where freshly accumulated snowdrift can in isolated cases release even by minimum additional loading. Triggering the snowpack in more deeply embedded layers is now likely only in extremely steep terrain where the snow is shallow above 2300m, particularly on north facing slopes, by large additional loading.

SNOW LAYERING

More and more, the snowpack is stabilizing. Weak layers which could trigger slab avalanches are possible at the borderlines between fresh snowdrift and loosely-packed powder adjacent to the layer of Sahara Desert dust which was recently deposited on the snowpack at high altitudes. Deeply embedded weak faceted layers interspersed with crusts still exist, but are unlikely to release except by large additional loading or artificial triggering. Snow quality varies greatly: from finest powder in shady, wind-protected forests to breakable crusts on steep, sunny slopes to wind-impacted surfaces at high altitudes.

ALPINE WEATHER FORECAST (ZAMG-WEATHER SERVICE INNSBRUCK)

Mountain weather today: good conditions north and south of Main Alpine Ridge, lots of sunshine, a few high altitude clouds creating somewhat diffuse light, zero-degree level just under 2000m. Temperature at 2000m: -1 degree; at 3000m -6 degrees. Light to moderate southerly winds, in foehn lanes brisker.

SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

Generally favourable conditions will continue

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Translated by Jeffrey McCabe