



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

Moderate danger above 2000m, ridgeline snowdrift, full depth slides in the south

AVALANCHE DANGER

Avalanche danger above approximately 2000m remains moderate; below that altitude in North Tirol, low. In East Tirol, danger is moderate also at lower altitudes due to the threat of full depth snowslides, which are increasingly observed below about 2300m on steep, grassy slopes, particularly on E to S to W facing slopes. Due to the inordinate masses of snow, such slides can attain large size. Currently they release seldom, but areas below glide cracks in the snowpack surface should be avoided. Elsewhere, danger zones are found mostly in very steep, shady ridgeline terrain (in high alpine regions in all aspects) where freshly accumulated snowdrift has recently formed. With experience the danger patches are easy to recognize. The frequency of danger zones tends to increase with ascending altitude. Through large additional loading, e.g. fracturing cornices or slabs at high altitudes in steep terrain, especially on NW to N to E facing slopes, the more deeply embedded layers inside the snowpack could also be swept away, although this is not currently a threat.

SNOW LAYERING

Snowpack quality is slowly deteriorating. Powder is still evident in sparsely wooded, shady zones, elsewhere in shady, wind-protected bowls. Wind crusts are forming to a greater extent, melt-freeze crusts on south facing slopes. Slab avalanches are currently possible at the borderline between the loosely-packed powder and the snowdrift lying on top of it. More deeply embedded layers of faceted crystals and adjacent crusts inside the snowpack are relatively well bonded, but large additional loading could release them in isolated cases.

ALPINE WEATHER FORECAST (ZAMG-WEATHER SERVICE INNSBRUCK)

Mountain weather today: Quite sunny on northern flank of the Alps, occasional cloud above summit levels. Towards evening, cloud will move in from the west, local snow showers are possible. South of Main Alpine Ridge, high fogbanks to begin with, later dispersing. This afternoon, clouds will move in from the southwest, some snowfall is possible. Temperature at 2000m: -6 to -1 degree; at 3000m -9 degrees. Moderate strength southerly to southwesterly winds.

SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

Generally favourable conditions will continue

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Translated by Jeffrey McCabe