



DANGER PATTERNS (DP): dp.10 - springtime scenario; dp.2 - sliding snow; dp.6 - cold, loose, new fallen snow and wind

Favourable conditions in early morning, daytime increase in avalanche danger

AVALANCHE DANGER

Increasingly springlike conditions are unrolling in Tirol's backcountry touring regions. The danger level is subject to a daytime warming cycle: in the early morning, danger level is generally low; as of late morning it increases to moderate. Locations threatened by dry slab avalanches are found in high alpine shady ridgeline terrain more than anywhere else, particularly in W to N to E facing aspects above 2400m. Beware: fresh, small-sized snowdrift accumulations can still be triggered by minimum additional loading in some places. At low and intermediate altitudes, i.e. below 2600m, the snowpack loses its firmness by late morning. Particularly on east to south to southwest facing sun-drenched slopes, increasingly frequent naturally triggered loose avalanches, even isolated slab avalanches, can be expected. In East Tirol where snowfall has been heaviest, gliding avalanches are still a threat.

SNOW LAYERING

The old snowpack has settled well and is stable by and large. Area-wide, cohesive weak layers inside the snowpack are lacking. However, caution is still necessary: high altitude northeasterly to easterly winds are blowing at strong velocity, thus formed fresh snowdrift accumulations ongoingly in high alpine ridgeline terrain in particular. The drifted masses are small-sized, but relatively trigger-sensitive. The snowpack surface in wind-protected, shady zones is often still powdery. On sunny slopes the surface up to intermediate altitudes is frequently moist, in the early morning with a thin crust. As of late morning, the snowpack forfeits its firmness due to daytime warming and solar radiation, especially on sunny slopes.

ALPINE WEATHER FORECAST (ZAMG-WEATHER SERVICE INNSBRUCK)

Weather: A powerful high pressure front extends from the British Isles to deep over Russia and Tirol lies in its path. The air is extremely dry and mild. Mountain weather today: Early morning cloud will disperse by midday, good weather conditions and unimpeded sunshine will prevail, excellent visibility in high alpine regions, zero-degree level this afternoon just under 3000m in western regions, at 2400m in eastern regions. Windy in some regions. Temperature at 2000m: +1 degree; at 3000m: -5 degrees. Brisk to strong velocity northeasterly winds this morning, slackening off somewhat this afternoon.

SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

Favourable conditions in early morning, daytime increase in avalanche danger

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