



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

Favourable conditions continue, daytime rise in avalanche danger

AVALANCHE DANGER

Classic springlike conditions prevail for backcountry touring. Favourable conditions will reign this morning, mostly low avalanche danger; as of midday, the danger level will gradually rise at low and intermediate altitudes on very steep, sunny slopes as the snowpack becomes increasingly wet. Isolated wet avalanches, in highly isolated cases also wet slab avalanches will release in extremely steep, sunny terrain. Gliding avalanches continue to be a threat (for that reason, danger level 2 in East Tirol below 2400m). The wetter the snowpack becomes, the more likely are such releases. Elsewhere, hardly any danger zones, except in high alpine ridgeline terrain on very steep, shady slopes, where the recently formed snowdrift patches are a threat.

SNOW LAYERING

A night of star-studded skies and very dry air led to good outgoing radiation which firmed up the snowpack surface. With good timing the very steep, sunny slopes below 2500m will again offer firm snow today. Powder snow is becoming rarer due to brisk northeasterly winds which led to minor snow transport but will slow down the moistening process of the snowpack today. Slab avalanches are most possible on shady high alpine slopes at the touchpoint between loosely packed powder and snowdrift, on sunny slopes around the point where a layer of Sahara Desert dust was deposited in mid-November.

ALPINE WEATHER FORECAST (ZAMG-WEATHER SERVICE INNSBRUCK)

Mountain weather today: clouds passing through from the east, slightly impeding the sun, the peaks all in the clear since the clouds are way above summit level. Skies will be milky white in the uplands most of all; towards the east the cloud will be thinner. Easterly winds significant in high altitude terrain. Mild, the zero-degree level just below 3000m. Tonight, clear skies; tomorrow winds will weaken. Temperature at 2000m, 6 degrees; at 3000m, -1 degree. Moderate northeasterly to easterly winds; in the Hohe Tauern and Northern Alps at stronger velocity.

SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

Springtime conditions will persist.

Patrick Nairz

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe