



DANGER PATTERNS (DP): [dp.10 - springtime scenario](#); [dp.2 - sliding snow](#)

Springtime situation: favourable in morning, rising daytime danger

AVALANCHE DANGER

The avalanche danger is contingent on the time of day: until late morning favourable conditions prevail, the danger is low; in East Tirol, due to more snow and peril of gliding avalanches, moderate danger below about 2400m. During the morning, the snowpack becomes increasingly wet and forfeits its firmness, thus becoming weak. The danger level below about 3000m then rises at least to moderate. On extremely steep, sunny slopes more frequent wet avalanches, in isolated cases even slab avalanches can then be triggered, the latter type particularly on very steep west and east facing slopes between 2300 and 2600m, most likely in the regions where snow is shallowest. In addition, gliding avalanches should be considered on backcountry tours. The formula once again is, whoever starts and finishes early wins two prizes: superb firm snow and increased safety.

SNOW LAYERING

A night of clear skies and very dry air led to good outgoing radiation which firmed up the snowpack surface. On sunny slopes at low and intermediate altitudes as well as on very steep, sunny slopes at higher altitude, there is a melt-freeze crust widespread which is capable of bearing loads. However, the measurement stations show that the snowpack surface temperature is about 5 degrees higher today than yesterday, making the coldness reserves far lower, the snowpack will thus weaken far more rapidly today. Slab avalanches are most likely as of midday on wet and east facing slopes between 2300 and 2600m. A potential bed surface are the loosely packed, now thoroughly wet interim layers beneath the surface melt-freeze crust. The swiftly alternating transformation from powder to melt-freeze to firm is quite striking today. Be careful not to fall this morning.

ALPINE WEATHER FORECAST (ZAMG-WEATHER SERVICE INNSBRUCK)

Mountain weather today: outstanding skiing and mountain weather, full of sunshine. The very dry air makes for unparalleled visibility, the zero-degree level will climb to 3000m. Temperature at 2000m, +6 degrees; at 3000m, +1 degree. Light easterly winds.

SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

Springtime conditions will persist, including daytime danger cycle.

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Translated by Jeffrey McCabe