



DANGER PATTERNS (DP): [dp.6 - cold, loose, new fallen snow and wind](#); [dp.2 - sliding snow](#); [dp.4 - cold following warm / warm following cold](#)

Considerable danger above treeline, beware trigger-sensitive snowdrift

AVALANCHE DANGER

Heavy snowfall in some regions, together with high altitude winds, has raised the avalanche danger level above the treeline throughout Tirol to considerable. In the regions where snowfall was heaviest along the Main Alpine Ridge above 2500 m the critical danger level 3 has been reached. The major peril stems from fresh snowdrift accumulations found on steep ridgeline slopes above the treeline and behind terrain edges, where even minimum additional loading can trigger slab avalanches (danger level tending to increase with ascending altitude). Further, gliding avalanches threaten on steep, grass-covered slopes throughout Tirol; and loose avalanches on steep, sunny slopes.

SNOW LAYERING

Over the last 2 days there has been intensive snowfall in some parts of Tirol, widespread 30-50 cm, along the Main Alpine Ridge at high altitude as much as 75 cm, from place to place even more. The snowfall was accompanied by moderate, sometimes strong winds, leading to new snowdrift masses accumulating. Slab avalanches can release at the touchpoint between the loose powder snow and freshly formed drifts. In addition, particularly on sunny slopes where the snowpack was moist before the precipitation, there are faceted crystals at the borderline to the cold new fallen snow. No reports have been received as yet as to whether a truly weak layer threatens. We assume for the moment that releases are local.

ALPINE WEATHER FORECAST (ZAMG-WEATHER SERVICE INNSBRUCK)

Mountain weather today: the return of winter. The peaks are shrouded in cloud and fog, it is still snowing, although no longer intensively. This afternoon, visibility may improve. South of the Main Ridge the cloud cover is higher, it is generally dry, there could be some sunshine in the Dolomites and in southern East Tirol later on. Temperature at 2000m: -8 degrees; at 3000m, -14 degrees. Brisk to strong northwesterly winds to start with, slackening off during the course of the day.

SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

Avalanche danger will gradually diminish

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