



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

Beware daytime danger cycle, favourable conditions increase with altitude

AVALANCHE DANGER

Avalanche danger is contingent on time of day: until early morning, the danger level is low. During the course of the day, the snowpack moistens increasingly, the danger level increases to moderate (2) at low and intermediate altitudes (at very least) during the morning. In the afternoon, this extends also to higher altitudes. Particularly in extremely steep, shady terrain where the snowpack surface is moist, wet, loose avalanches can be triggered. In addition, the hazards of slab avalanches then also increase somewhat, particularly in very steep, shady terrain below about 2400 m on north facing slopes where the snow is shallow. Large additional loading can trigger isolated slab avalanches. Further, on steep, grass-covered slopes, isolated releases of gliding avalanches threaten. In southern East Tirol the gliding avalanches can attain larger size. Whoever heads into backcountry very early will be rewarded by sunny terrain and superb firm (corn) snow.

SNOW LAYERING

The snowpack consolidated well last night. Above about 1500 m on sunny, steep slopes, there is frequently a melt-freeze crust capable of bearing loads. Below that altitude, the crusts are usually breakable. Beneath the crust the snowpack was thoroughly moistened by last weekend's rainfall which reached at least as high as 2200 m even in shady terrain. Weak layers prone to slab avalanches are rare, possible in the layers nearest to the ground which contain faceted crystals. Through increasing water content, trigger sensitivity will be heightened for a short time, particularly on north facing slopes where the snow cover was dry until recently.

ALPINE WEATHER FORECAST (ZAMG-WEATHER SERVICE INNSBRUCK)

Mountain weather today: a generally sunny and mild day in the mountains. Clouds passing through are far above summit level, they will not impede the sunshine. The zero-degree level will be at 3000 m. Temperature at 2000m: 8 degrees; at 3000m, 0 degrees. Moderate to brisk high altitude winds from the northwest to begin with, then shifting to westerly-to-southwesterly.

SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

Since nocturnal outgoing radiation is often lacking, moderate danger even in early morning.

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