



DANGER PATTERNS (DP): [dp.1](#) - deep persistent weak layer; [dp.10](#) - springtime scenario; [dp.2](#) - sliding snow

Moderate danger initially, beware very steep, shady terrain below 2400 m

AVALANCHE DANGER

Avalanche danger has receded due to markedly lower temperatures, the danger level is currently moderate. At low altitudes where there is little remaining snow (primarily in northern regions) the danger level is low. Caution is urged on very steep, shady slopes below about 2400 m, where slab avalanches can be triggered particularly in transition areas from shallow to deep snow by large additional loading. Elsewhere, in extremely steep terrain at high altitudes, where there was a small amount of snowfall last night, small, loose avalanches have been observed. Gliding avalanches, especially on the steep, grassy slopes of East Tirol where snow is deeper, require ongoing caution; glide cracks indicate imminent danger.

SNOW LAYERING

The snowpack at low and intermediate altitudes is generally moist. With increasing altitude, the snowpack can form a melt-freeze crust, but it is capable of bearing loads only at high altitudes. Atop this, showerlike precipitation (initially rainfall up to 2300 m) has deposited some fresh fallen snow. The snow quality is poor in general, but tends to improve with ascending altitude. Weak layers which threaten slab avalanches are currently found on north facing slopes below about 2400 m; there are faceted crystals layers near the ground and the snowpack was thoroughly moistened for the first time over the weekend.

ALPINE WEATHER FORECAST (ZAMG-WEATHER SERVICE INNSBRUCK)

Mountain weather today: the Southern Alps will get the most sunshine amidst northerly foehn winds. On the northern flank of the Alps, western regions will enjoy more pleasant conditions, showers will taper off this morning, cloud and fog disperse and variable cloud-plus-sun move in. From the Karwendel - Zillertal Alps eastwards, intermittent snowfall to start with, showers will ease this afternoon, but cloud cover will persist. Temperature at 2000 m, -5 to -1 degree; at 3000 m, -11 to -7 degrees. Strong northwesterly winds to begin with, slackening off to moderate later on.

SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

No immediate significant change in the situation.

Patrick Nairz

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe