



Low avalanche danger persists - daily bulletins when snow arrives

AVALANCHE DANGER

Avalanche danger in Tirol's backcountry touring regions remains low, with only very few, sparsely located danger zones, hazards most likely to be found in extremely steep, shady gullies above approximately 2800m, where older, hardened snowdrift accumulations might be triggered by large additional loading. In general, the peril of injury from rocks or glacial crevasses is far higher than from avalanches. This scenario is not expected to change anytime soon.

SNOW LAYERING

There is far too little snow for this juncture of the season. Furthermore, it is much too warm. A cohesive, area-wide snowpack is to be found only in high alpine regions, and in some shady high altitude zones. The snowpack far and wide is low in internal tensions. On shady slopes, the snow cover is frequently loosely-packed and faceted, weights will sink down to the ground; on sunny slopes, the snowpack surface has been heavily influenced by the melting process. In high alpine regions, the snowpack surface shows heavy impact from winds. Slab avalanches might find a gliding surface in the loosely-packed fundament beneath the old, hard drifted masses in shady gullies at high altitude. However, these threaten at most with snowslides which could bring about a fall.

ALPINE WEATHER FORECAST (ZAMG-WEATHER SERVICE INNSBRUCK)

General weather forecast: a high pressure zone reigns, accompanied by unseasonably mild weather. As evening approaches, a weak front will send a few clouds over southern Germany to Ausserfern to Tirol's lowlands. Over the Christmas holidays, tranquil high pressure weather is anticipated, little fog, thin cirrostratus clouds, mild temperatures. On Sunday and at the beginning of next week it will remain sunny. Southwesterly winds will cause temperatures to rise still further, the zero-degree level climbing to nearly 3000 m.

SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

No significant change expected, ongoingly low avalanche danger. The next update will be published when a major shift occurs, at latest on 31.12.2015.

DANGER PATTERNS (DP)

[dp.1 - deep persistent weak layer](#)

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Translated by Jeffrey McCabe