



DANGER PATTERNS (DP): [dp.6 - loose snow and wind](#) [dp.4 - cold following warm / warm following cold](#) [dp.1 - deep persistent weak layer](#)

Considerable avalanche danger regionally above 2400m

AVALANCHE DANGER

Avalanche danger in Tirol's backcountry touring regions is regionally considerable above 2400m. Particularly between 2400 and 2800m on shady slopes there are ground-level layers of faceted-crystal snow. Especially the freshly formed snowdrift accumulations are easy to trigger, despite being small. Avalanche prone locations are found in ridgeline terrain in all aspects, as well as in drifted gullies and bowls. Transition areas from deep to shallow snow also need to be evaluated carefully.

SNOW LAYERING

The N/NW high altitude winds were mostly moderate yesterday, they were only strong enough for transport in high alpine ridgeline terrain. Freshly formed and older snowdrift accumulations are no longer as brittle as on Friday, but can still be triggered by large additional loading. Above 2400m, even minimum additional loading is often sufficient. The old snow is problematic for two reasons: first, in inneralpine regions and along the Main Alpine Ridge there are ground-level layers of faceted-crystal snow, particularly on shady slopes between 2400 and 2800m. Secondly, the danger pattern known as 'cold atop warm' has arisen in the last few days: particularly on sunny slopes between 2400 and 2800m a faceted-crystal snow layer has formed just beneath the last new fallen and newly drifted snow.

ALPINE WEATHER FORECAST (ZAMG-WEATHER SERVICE INNSBRUCK)

Weather: in the grip of a fast-moving westerly air current, a new warm front is brushing past Tirol today, bringing clouds. At the beginning of the new week, the airstream will shift to southwesterly, foehn conditions will arrive in Tirol before a powerful cold front traverses the land at midday on Tuesday. Mountain weather today: compact cloudbanks will move in from the north, mostly above summit level, creating diffuse light conditions. Not much sunshine this afternoon, but it is expected to remain dry and slightly milder than on Saturday. At 2000m: +3 degrees; at 3000m: -2 degrees. Moderate to brisk westerly winds, stronger in the Northern Alps.

SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

Avalanche danger will incrementally diminish.

Rudi Mair

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe