



DANGER PATTERNS (DP): [dp.10 - springtime szenario](#) [dp.1 - deep persistent weak layer](#)

Favourable early morning conditions. Considerable afternoon danger of wet-snow avalanches.

AVALANCHE DANGER

Classic springtime conditions prevail in Tirol. Following a night of predominantly clear skies, the snowpack cooled and stabilised, creating low avalanche danger in the early morning hours. During the day danger levels will increase, due to the increasing wetness of the snowpack. By midday at latest, danger will be considerable below 2800m. Above 2800m the danger will stay low, since the winds are keeping the snowpack cool. The major peril stems from wet-snow slab avalanches which, as the moistening increases, can be triggered by ever less additional loading. This applies particularly to steep, sunny slopes at 2300 to 2800m. Wet-snow loosely-packed avalanches are also possible on extremely steep, sunny slopes, ordinarily through the weight of one sole skier. The less, nonetheless real potential danger on very steep, untracked shady slopes above 2300m in the inneralpine regions also needs to be considered: the weak, ground-level layers could fracture in unfavourable circumstances.

SNOW LAYERING

The temperature of the snowpack surface was -5 to -10 degrees in early morning today, a sign that a crust capable of bearing loads has formed at low and intermediate altitudes. Beneath the melt-freeze crust the snowpack is moist up to 3000m, sometimes downright wet. The snowpack fundament riddled with depth hoar even on sunny slopes, which begins at 2300m and upwards, is being further weakened by the moistness, thus, it serves as a potential weak layer for slab avalanches. High-altitude cloud and wind tend to slow down the moistening process.

ALPINE WEATHER FORECAST (ZAMG-WEATHER SERVICE INNSBRUCK)

Southerly winds will intensify today, more cloud than yesterday, somewhat hampered sunshine. This afternoon, convective cloud build-up and a tendency towards showers, particularly in the Southern Alps. It will stay quite warm, the zero-degree level at 2800m. At 2000m: 2 to 6 degrees; at 3000m: -1 degree. Brisk S/SW winds, blowing at strong to storm strength in the classic foehn lanes.

SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

Less nocturnal cooling of the snowpack tonight due to cloud cover. Heed daytime danger cycle.

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Translated by Jeffrey McCabe