



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

### 1 May 2017 • Final daily avalanche bulletin - increasingly springlike conditions

#### AVALANCHE DANGER

Avalanche danger remains a subject of concern, even at this juncture of the season. Above 2500m considerable danger prevails, below 2000m danger is low. Avalanche prone locations are currently found on very steep, shady slopes above 2500m. Although the situation has improved over the last two days, slab avalanches can still be triggered by minimum additional loading in the uppermost weak layer of the snow cover. This applies most of all to altitudes of 2500-2900 m. Above 3200m, it also includes east-, south- and west-facing slopes, as was confirmed by several avalanches yesterday. As a cold front moves in, snowdrift problems will arise above 2600m, particularly in terrain adjacent to ridgelines on shady slopes. With ascending altitude the drifts become more prone to triggering. Outlook: increasingly the daytime warming and wetness of the snowpack will play a role in forming weak layers. Following bouts of snowfall, more loosely-packed avalanches will occur. Once the snowpack's weak layers are thoroughly wet, the danger of slab avalanches increases, particularly on shady slopes above 2400 m.

#### SNOW LAYERING

The snowpack moistened yesterday up to at least 3000m, due to solar radiation and rising temperatures; at lower altitudes it is quite wet; on shady slopes it is wet up to 2300m. Last night a breakable crust formed. Weak layers inside the snowpack are found mostly in the form of faceted-crystal snow, corresponding to the danger pattern Cold On Warm, on north-facing slopes at 2500-2900m, and on east-, south- and west-facing slopes above 3200m. At highest altitudes there is surface hoar in shady terrain; following snowfall, the loose, blanketed powder snow can also be a danger.

#### ALPINE WEATHER FORECAST (ZAMG-WEATHER SERVICE INNSBRUCK)

Skies will be clear to start with. Around midday, cloud cover will move in from the west. This afternoon clouds will become denser and spread further eastwards, intensive snowfall will follow in the mountains, reaching eastern regions only later in the day. Temperatures will drop rapidly.

#### SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

Following snowfall, a brief threat of loosely-packed avalanches in sunny terrain. The daytime cycle will play an ever greater role in the daily danger pattern.

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Translated by Jeffrey McCabe