



DANGER PATTERNS (DP): [dp.6 - loose snow and wind](#) [dp.1 - deep persistent weak layer](#) [dp.2 - gliding snow](#)

Rising avalanche danger due to fresh drifts

AVALANCHE DANGER

Avalanche danger in Tirol's backcountry touring regions is considerable widespread. The major hazard stems from fresh, trigger-sensitive snowdrift accumulations. They are being formed anew ongoingly from strong-to-stormy southerly winds. Avalanche prone locations are found on steep slopes and ridgelines in all aspects above 2000 m. Increasingly, a slab avalanche can be triggered even by minimum additional loading, i.e. the weight of one person. On steep, grass-covered slopes, the danger of gliding avalanches triggering naturally requires special caution.

SNOW LAYERING

As a result of strong to storm-strength southerly foehn winds, snowdrift accumulations have formed above 2000 m. They are poorly bonded with the loosely-packed old snowpack surface and thus, prone to triggering. A so-called old-snow problem occurs mainly in the inneralpine touring regions, along the Main Alpine Ridge and in East Tirol: above 2400 m beneath hardened crusts are thin layers of faceted snow crystals, loosely packed.

ALPINE WEATHER FORECAST (ZAMG-WEATHER SERVICE INNSBRUCK)

Weather: the Eastern Alps lie at the forefront of a new SW air current, stormy foehn wind on the northern flank of the Alps and increasing precipitation which will also extend southwards. The foehn will collapse this evening, a cold front will bring snowfall to North Tirol in its wake. On Friday, an intermediate weather improvement follows, then on Saturday a warm front will bring snowfall and rainfall. Mountain weather today: foehn dominates the weather on the northern flank of the Alps: strong and, in the classic foehn lanes, very stormy. This will disperse the cloud to the north, but high summits may stay hidden. On the Main Alpine Ridge and in the mountains of East Tirol, snowfall will set in, intensifying during the day and tonight. Temperature at 2000 m: -3 degrees; at 3000 m: -10 degrees. Temperatures cooling by 5 degrees during the night. Strong to stormy foehn S/SW wind, shifting to NW on Thursday.

SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

Fresh snow and wind will create heightened avalanche danger widespread.

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Translated by Jeffrey McCabe