

# Avalanche Bulletin of the Avalanche Warning Service Tyrol Wednesday, 31.01.2018, at 07:30 Uhr





DANGER PATTERNS (DP): <u>dp.2 - gliding snow</u> <u>dp.10 - springtime szenario</u>

# Conditions like in springtime, daytime rise in danger at low and intermediate altitudes

## AVALANCHE DANGER

Currently we are enjoying conditions just like in spring. Avalanche danger this morning is mostly low, this afternoon below 2200 m rising to moderate. This morning, most attention should be expended on the risk of gliding avalanches on steep, grassy slopes, particularly because increasingly frequent gliding avalanches have been observed in the last few days due to the thoroughly wet snowpack. In addition, there is a small chance that in extremely steep, shady terrain at 1900-2200 m slab avalanches can still be triggered: in very isolated cases where snow is shallow, through large additional loading. During the course of the day the snowpack will lose much of its firmness at low and intermediate altitudes on steep, sunny slopes. On extremely steep, rocky slopes, wet loose-snow avalanches can release naturally. Wet loose-snow avalanches can also be triggered by the weight of skiers and freeriders.

### SNOW LAYERING

Nighttime skies were mostly cloudless, or only with little cloud. In the Lowlands there was some high fog. The snowpack thus had adequate outgoing radiation. On E/S/W facing slopes a melt-freeze crust formed; it is generally capable of bearing loads up to intermediate altitudes at least. Most important is the wetness of the snowpack and the loss of firmness throughout the day on sunny slopes at low and intermediate altitudes. The water seepage into the snowpack enhances the gliding movement on steep, grassy slopes. Potential weak layers inside the snowpack are rare: most likely on shady slopes at 1900-2200 m, where there is a layer of faceted crystals surrounding thin melt-freeze crusts.

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

Once again, temperatures above zero to nearly 2000 m. A few clouds will pass through above summit level, but sunshine will dominate throughout the day. Some residual fog at 1400-1800 m this morning. At 2000 m: up to +1 degree; at 3000 m: -4 degrees. Moderate to brisk W/SW winds at high altitude.

#### SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

Due to the approaching cold front, the snowdrift problem will become a risk at high altitude.

Patrick Nairz

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe