



DANGER PATTERNS (DP): [dp.4 - cold following warm / warm following cold](#) [dp.8 - surface hoar blanketed with snow](#) [dp.6 - loose snow and wind](#)

Considerable danger above 2100 m. High proneness to triggering in some places.

AVALANCHE DANGER

Above 2100 m, considerable avalanche danger prevails widespread; in southern East Tirol, low danger prevails. The main problem still lies with the recently formed snowdrift accumulations. The winds did a thorough job of transporting immense snow masses yesterday. The snowdrifts which accumulated above 2100 m can easily trigger, even the weight of one skier is enough. This was confirmed by numerous avalanches which fortunately caused no accidents or damages. All aspects are at risk, especially very steep sunny slopes. Whoever heads into backcountry today needs deep knowledge of avalanche science. Avoid snowdrifts in steep terrain, ski defensively. Gliding avalanches are still possible on steep, grassy slopes. The situation at lower altitudes is more favourable, also much-skied slopes and East Tirol in general are safer.

SNOW LAYERING

Dropping temperatures are stabilising the snowpack somewhat at lower altitudes, where there is now a thin melt-freeze crust in most places. Beneath that, the snowpack is often moist, wet in western regions. The uppermost layers are most relevant to current avalanche danger above 2100 m. There is blanketed surface hoar on shady slopes, also near ridgelines (Nigg effect). Faceted crystals near the melt-freeze crusts are also easy to trigger. These are found especially on west and east facing slopes at 2200-2400 m, and on south facing slopes above 2400 m. The snow quality is still poor, the regions with good powder are becoming rarer.

ALPINE WEATHER FORECAST (ZAMG-WEATHER SERVICE INNSBRUCK)

Last snow showers will slowly come to an end, the clouds begin to disperse in western regions. Between Paznaun and Stubai Alps, some sunshine is likely; in the Kitzbühel Alps and northern Limestone Alps the cloud will persist for longer. On the southern flank of the Alps there will be more sunshine this morning, more cloud in East Tirol. At 2000 m: -8 degrees; at 3000 m: -13 degrees. Moderate N/NW winds at high altitude.

SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

No significant change in avalanche danger levels is expected.

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Translated by Jeffrey McCabe