



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 avalanche danger widespread above 2200 m

AVALANCHE DANGER

Avalanche danger in Tirol's backcountry touring regions is considerable over widespread areas above 2200 m. The main danger stems from freshly formed snowdrift accumulations of recent days. These drifts are often quite small, but can trigger as avalanches even by minimum additional loading. Frequency and size of the avalanche prone locations tend to increase with ascending altitude. Below 2200 m the danger of gliding avalanches triggering naturally still requires caution. Skiing and freeriding tours in outlying terrain currently require much experience in assessing avalanche dangers on-site.

SNOW LAYERING

The old snowpack has settled and is stable. For more than three weeks there have been no fractures observed in the old snowpack. All the avalanches which have released in the last few days were in the uppermost layers. Here, fresh snow and older snowdrift accumulations have often been deposited on top of layers of loose, faceted crystals which formed beneath crusts, also atop surface hoar. Since the snowdrift accumulations will be blanketed anew by fresh snow in the next few days, they will be difficult to spot in outlying terrain.

ALPINE WEATHER FORECAST (ZAMG-WEATHER SERVICE INNSBRUCK)

Weather. A low pressure front is centered over Italy, bringing moist, cold air masses from the east/northeast to Tirol. On the weekend, these air masses should become drier. Mountain weather today. The peaks can't escape the fog and cloud today. Intermittent snowfall along the Northern Alps will be light. Less snowfall and a bit of sunshine expected between Arlberg and the glacier regions of the western sector of the Main Alpine Ridge. Cold. Temperature at 2000 m: -9 degrees; at 3000 m: -16 degrees. Light to moderate NE/NW winds at high altitude.

SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

Considerable avalanche danger widespread will continue.

Rudi Mair

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe