



DANGER PATTERNS (DP): [dp.2 - gliding snow](#) [dp.10 - springtime szenario](#)

Beware swift daytime increase of danger, especially gliding avalanches

AVALANCHE DANGER

Avalanche danger is subject to a daytime danger cycle. In the early morning, danger below 2600 m is moderate, above 2600 m danger is low. During the morning hours, danger rapidly increases to considerable below 2800 m, above 2800 m to moderate. The main peril stems from gliding avalanches on steep, grassy slopes. Due to the above-average snow depths, avalanches can grow to large size. In addition, skiers can trigger wet loose-snow avalanches in extremely steep terrain where the snowpack surface is thoroughly wet. In North Tirol, naturally triggered avalanches are also possible as a result of solar radiation, and these releases can sweep away the wet snowpack beneath. The danger of slab avalanches requires caution on west and east-facing slopes at 2500-2900 m. The likelihood of triggering increases over the course of the day. The rule of thumb: the earlier and the higher you go, the more favourable the conditions.

SNOW LAYERING

Nocturnal outgoing radiation is a key factor these days. Last night, cloudy skies in the latter part of the night hindered adequate outgoing radiation. Thus, the snowpack could not cool sufficiently and regain its firmness. Superficial melt-freeze crusts will thus be breakable this morning. The snowpack is becoming more moist/wet with each passing day. On sunny slopes it is wet from the ground up to at least 2600 m; even higher on southern slopes. Thus, the surface friction of sliding snow decreases. In addition, weak layers which formed in February and March are being further weakened.

ALPINE WEATHER FORECAST (ZAMG-WEATHER SERVICE INNSBRUCK)

At the forefront of a front moving from the south, moist air masses are being pushed into the mountains of Tirol. On the southern flank of the Alps, skies will cloud over with gray this morning, visibility deteriorate. This afternoon, light rainfall/snowfall (snowfall level 1800-2000 m) is expected. On the northern flank of the Alps it will be dry, foehn-induced. High clouds and dust from the Sahara will create diffuse light conditions, the peaks of the Main Alpine Ridge will disappear in fog this afternoon. At 2000 m: 7 degrees; at 3000 m: -5 degrees. Strong, gusts, stormy southerly winds at high altitudes.

SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

The snowpack is losing its firmness continually, becoming wetter day by day.

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Translated by Jeffrey McCabe