



DANGER PATTERNS (DP): [dp.2 - gliding snow](#) [dp.10 - springtime szenario](#) [dp.6 - loose snow and wind](#)

Heed daytime danger cycle! Main problem: gliding avalanches

AVALANCHE DANGER

In early morning in North Tirol, mostly low danger prevails, in East Tirol moderate danger. During the day, avalanche danger rises throughout the land as a result of the warmth. The main problem stems from gliding avalanches on steep, grassy slopes which can trigger at any time of day or night, utterly unpredictably. Even small gliding avalanches can sweep away the thoroughly wet layers of the snowpack (which extend down to the ground in many places) and thereby grow to large size. Furthermore, wherever the snowpack surface becomes wet during the course of the day, backcountry skiers can trigger wet loose-snow avalanches in extremely steep terrain. Caution is also urged in very steep, shady glacial terrain and near ridgelines, where the recently generated snowdrifts are prone to triggering.

SNOW LAYERING

The early hours of the night were clear in most parts of Tirol, cloud cover moved in later and impeded the outgoing radiation. Nonetheless, there was often a melt-freeze crust capable of bearing loads this morning (especially where there was rain impact in North and East Tirol). Beneath this crust, the snowpack up to high altitudes on sunny slopes is moist, on shady slopes of North Tirol up to 2000 m, in East Tirol up to 2300 m. Potential weak layers for slab avalanches are currently found mostly in high alpine, shady terrain in the form of blanketed powder or graupel.

ALPINE WEATHER FORECAST (ZAMG-WEATHER SERVICE INNSBRUCK)

Dry, mild mountain weather: the zero-degree level is around 3000 m. On the northern flank of the Alps it will be intermittently sunny, extensive cloudbanks above summit level will impede the sunshine, however. On the southern flank of the Alps and on the Main Alpine Ridge, barrier cloud will prevail, thus, peaks will be hidden in fog and there will be less overall sunshine than in the north. On Sunday night, rain and snow showers are anticipated, snowfall level over 2000 m. Temperature at 2000 m: +7 degrees; at 3000 m: +1 degree. Moderate southerly winds at high altitudes, stronger on the Main Ridge and in the classic foehn lanes.

SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

Clouds will impede nocturnal outgoing radiation of the snowpack.

Patrick Nairz

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe