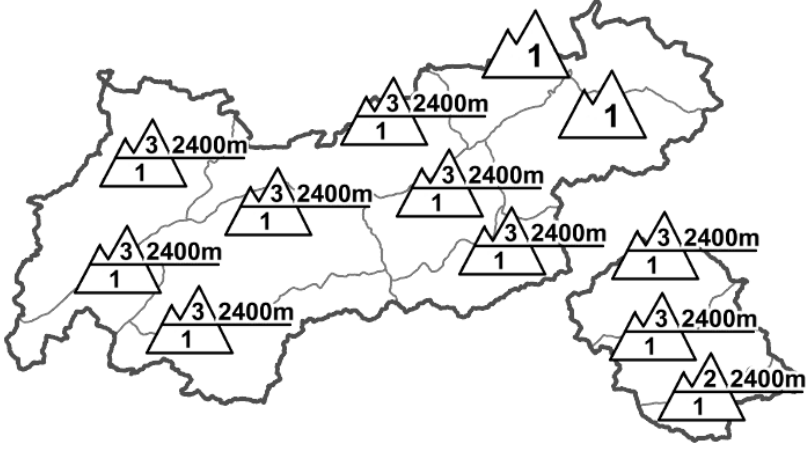






Regional Avalanche Danger Levels in alpine areas from 22.12.2014 07:30 All-Day	WHAT? problem	WHERE? danger spots
	<p>General Level Tirol</p> 	<p>Tendency tomorrow</p>  <p>constant</p>

DANGER PATTERNS (DP): [dp.6 - loose snow and wind](#) [dp.1 - deep persistent weak layer](#)

Despite lack of snow, considerable avalanche danger in high alpine regions!

AVALANCHE DANGER

In spite of generally below-average snow depths, the avalanche danger must not be underestimated: above 2400 m the danger level in some places is considerable. The major peril stems from snowdrift accumulations which have formed repeatedly over the last few days. They are usually poorly bonded with the old snowpack surface beneath them and can frequently release even by minimum additional loading. Avalanche prone locations are to be found particularly in ridgeline terrain, as well as in full-to-the-brim gullies and bowls. Frequency and spread of these danger zones tend to increase with ascending altitude.

SNOW LAYERING

Storm-strength westerly winds have brought about massive snow transport in recent days. The snowdrift at high altitudes was most often deposited on top of loosely packed powder snow, making it very easy to trigger as a slab avalanche. In addition, the old snowpack on shady slopes above 2400 m contains faceted snow crystals embedded between numerous crusts, making the drifted masses atop them prone to triggering.

ALPINE WEATHER FORECAST (ZAMG-WEATHER SERVICE INNSBRUCK)

Weather: A far reaching high pressure zone lies over western Europe. Tirol is caught in a northwesterly airstream bringing mild, dry air masses its way. Not until 25 December will the tenacious system be replaced by weather perturbances. Mountain weather today: The brisk northwesterly to westerly winds continue to bring mild air masses to Tirol, especially at high altitude. There will be lots of sunshine today, occasionally rippled with cirrus cloud. No precipitation. Temperature at 2000 m: -6 degrees; at 3000 m, -1 degree. Brisk northwesterly to westerly winds at high altitude.

SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

Above 2400 m, considerable avalanche danger in some places.

Rudi Mair

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe