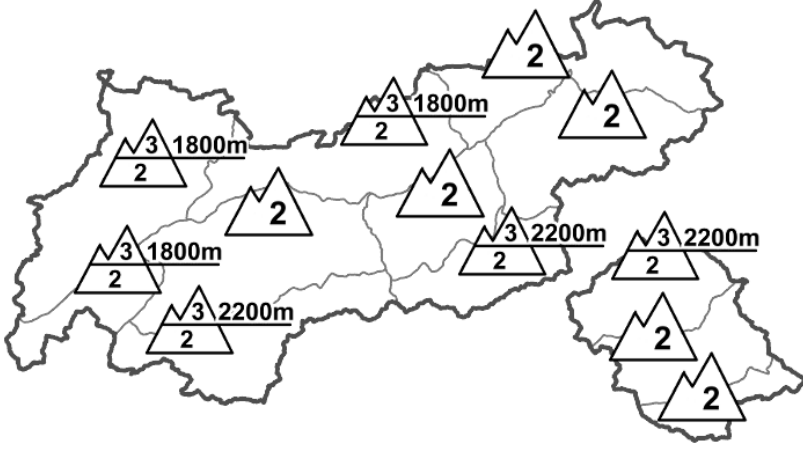






Regional Avalanche Danger Levels in alpine areas from 28.12.2014 07:30 All-Day	WHAT? problem	WHERE? danger spots
		
	General Level Tirol 	Tendency tomorrow  constant

DANGER PATTERNS (DP): [dp.6 - loose snow and wind](#)

Regionally considerable avalanche danger

AVALANCHE DANGER

The avalanche danger in Tirol's backcountry touring regions is moderate far and wide, but in the northern regions where there has been heavy snowfall and along the Main Alpine Ridge, danger levels are also considerable. The major peril stems from older, but mainly freshly formed snowdrift accumulations. Since the drifted masses are brittle as a result of low temperatures and in addition, were deposited atop loosely packed new fallen snow, they are prone to triggering and can often release even by minimum additional loading: the weight of one sole skier is sufficient. In isolated cases, avalanches can fracture down to the old snowpack and thereby reach medium size. Avalanche prone locations are to be found primarily on wind-loaded slopes in all aspects above approximately 1800 m. Frequency and spread of danger zones tend to increase with ascending altitude. Skiing and freeriding tours in outlying terrain currently require experience in evaluating avalanche dangers on-site.

SNOW LAYERING

Last night, especially in the Arlberg/Ausserfern region, Silvretta and southern East Tirol, there was snowfall bringing several centimeters of fresh fallen snow. The strong to storm-strength southwesterly wind again brought about wide ranging snowdrift accumulations. Both fresh fallen and freshly drifted snows now blanket a very irregular old snow cover. Up to intermediate altitudes the surface often bears a melt-freeze crust. At high altitudes there are several crusts embedded inside the old snowpack. Between the crusts, layers of faceted, loose snow crystals are frequently found.

ALPINE WEATHER FORECAST (ZAMG-WEATHER SERVICE INNSBRUCK)

Weather: Low pressure influence can be felt clear across the Alps. The low over the Adriatic is moving towards the Balkans; shifting the airstream increasingly to the northeast. Continental cold air masses over Eastern Europe are being drawn our way and merging with the barrier clouds lodged against the northern flanks of the mountains. This combination will determine the finale of this year's weather conditions. Mountain weather today: On the northern flank of the Alps, peaks are often cloaked in cloud accompanied by snow showers which will tend to get heavier later in the day as barrier cloud accumulates: 15-25 cm of new fallen snow is anticipated, in the Upper Inn Valley and inneralpine regions probably only 5-10 cm. In East Tirol, particularly near the Main Alpine Ridge, lighter snowfall; further south, cloud cover will be denser, but at higher altitude. Northerly winds will intensify during the course of the day. Temperature at 2000m, -10 degrees; at 3000m, -17 degrees. Moderate northeasterly winds (30 km/h) at high altitudes.

SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

Very cold, but no significant change in the avalanche situation.

Rudi Mair

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe