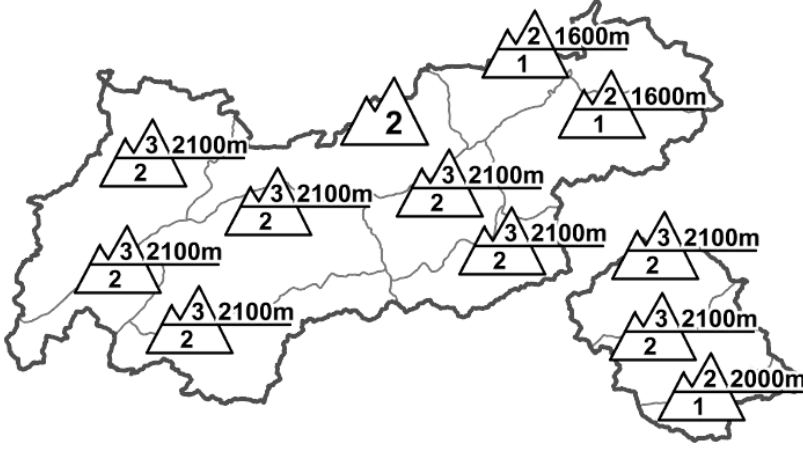












Regional Avalanche Danger Levels in alpine areas from 13.01.2015 07:30 All-Day		WHAT? problem	WHERE? danger spots
		 persistent weak layer	 2100m  south of the Inn
		 drifting snow	 2300m  highly varied
		General Level Tirol 	Tendency tomorrow  constant

DANGER PATTERNS (DP): [dp.1 - deep persistent weak layer](#) [dp.6 - loose snow and wind](#) [dp.4 - cold following warm / warm following cold](#)

Beware fresh snowdrift and trigger-sensitive old snow

AVALANCHE DANGER

Avalanche danger in Tirol remains delicate far and wide above approximately 2100m, the danger level is considerable. Below 2100m two perils threaten: a) the old snowpack is prone to triggering above approximately 2100m. Particularly in transition areas from shallow to deep snow, even minimum additional loading can trigger a slab avalanche in steep terrain. In isolated cases, remote triggerings are still possible at any time, particularly in high alpine regions in all aspects; between 2100 and 2600m on shady slopes. b) Avalanches can fracture at the transition point between the fresh fallen snow and the loosely packed powder beneath it. This particularly threatens above approximately 2300m. And with ascending altitude, the likelihood of such freshly formed snowdrift masses triggering increases.

SNOW LAYERING

The single overriding aspect of recent days has been wind, wind and more wind. Huge snow plumes at the mountaintops were clear indicators of wide ranging snow transport. For that reason the snowpack is distributed highly irregularly, the surface extremely varied. Below about 2600m the surface is frequently covered by ice crusts. The loosely packed, faceted crystals between the embedded crusts in all aspects (primarily above approximately 2100m) are seminally weak layers; on shady slopes they occur as far up as 2600m. The huge temperature contrasts inside the snowpack can also cause new weak layers to form near the uppermost surface.

ALPINE WEATHER FORECAST (ZAMG-WEATHER SERVICE INNSBRUCK)

Mountain weather today: winds mainly in the foehn-exposed regions and in high alpine regions. Otherwise, sunshine reigns. This afternoon, some cloud will enter the picture. Mild: zero-degree level at 2500-3000m. Temperature at 2000m, +4 degrees; on the southern flank of the Alps +1 degree; at 3000m, -2 degrees. In high alpine regions and in foehn-exposed terrain, strong southwesterly winds; elsewhere, usually blowing at moderate strength.

SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

Avalanche danger will diminish only incrementally.

Patrick Nairz

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe