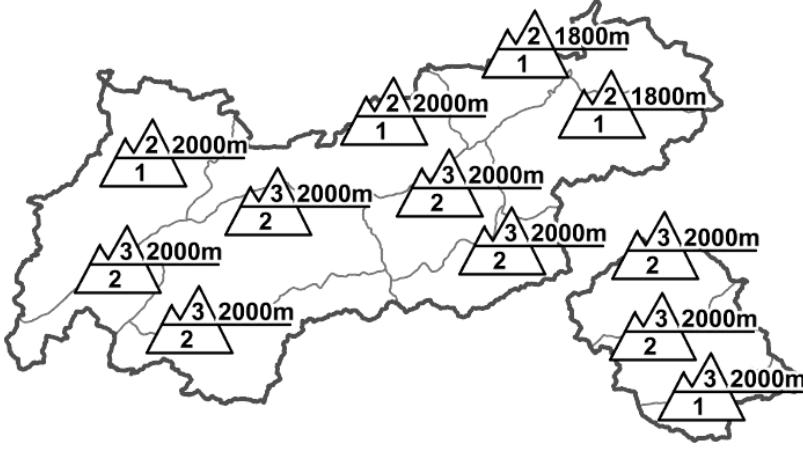

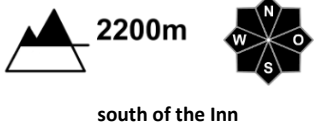

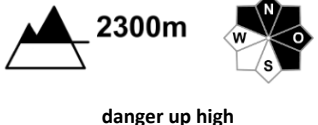

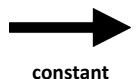




Regional Avalanche Danger Levels in alpine areas from 18.01.2015 07:30 All-Day	WHAT? problem	WHERE? danger spots
	 persistent weak layer	 2200m south of the Inn
	 drifting snow	 2300m danger up high
	General Level Tirol 	Tendency tomorrow  constant

DANGER PATTERNS (DP): [dp.1](#) - deep persistent weak layer [dp.6](#) - loose snow and wind [dp.7](#) - snow-poor zones in snow-rich surrounding

Danger frequently considerable above 2000m. New fallen snow hides danger zones.

AVALANCHE DANGER

Avalanche danger in the furthestmost northern regions is more favourable than in southern regions. South of the Arlberg, in the Northern Alps and Kitzbühel Alps, considerable danger prevails above approximately 2000m; moderate danger below that altitude; low danger in some places. In the northernmost regions, the danger level below about 2000m is usually low; above that altitude, moderate, the danger level tending to be higher with ascending altitude. The main peril: the fresh powder can distract one from the hazards deep inside the snowpack beneath it. Particularly in those regions where danger level 3 prevails, increasingly above approximately 2200m in all aspects, it can release. This is especially likely, i.e. by minimum additional loading, in steep transitions areas from shallow to deep snow. Avalanches can attain medium size in the regions along the Main Alpine Ridge and in the Tux Alps. In addition, above the treeline there are freshly formed snowdrift accumulations (now blanketed by new fallen powder) which above approximately 2300m can be triggered, particularly in shady, steep terrain adjacent to ridgelines in eastern aspects. Loose snow avalanches can be expected on sunny, extremely steep slopes.

SNOW LAYERING

During the last 24 hours there has been 10 to 40 cm of fresh fallen snow (locally as much as 50 cm) amidst lessening winds and receding temperatures. Snowfall was heaviest in the Zillertal Alps, Silvretta and southern Ötztal Alps. In the furthestmost north, the least amount fell. Loose powder now covers an old snowpack which is prone to triggering, especially in those regions where danger level 3 prevails today. The snow cover frequently consists of a mixture of crusts and loose, faceted crystals, prevalent on sunny slopes above approximately 2200m up to high alpine regions; and on shady slopes between about 2200 and 2600m. Only at high altitudes is the snowdrift which has accumulated over the last few days poorly bonded with the powder snow beneath it.

ALPINE WEATHER FORECAST (ZAMG-WEATHER SERVICE INNSBRUCK)

Mountain weather today: snow showers moving eastwards, clouds beginning to disperse from the west and in the glacier regions, sunshine incrementally making itself felt. Only on mountain flanks will the fogbanks cling a little longer. It will turn wintry-cold. Temperature at 2000m, -5 degrees; at 3000m, -13 degrees. Light to moderate southwesterly winds at high altitudes.

SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

unchanged scenario initially

Patrick Nairz

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe