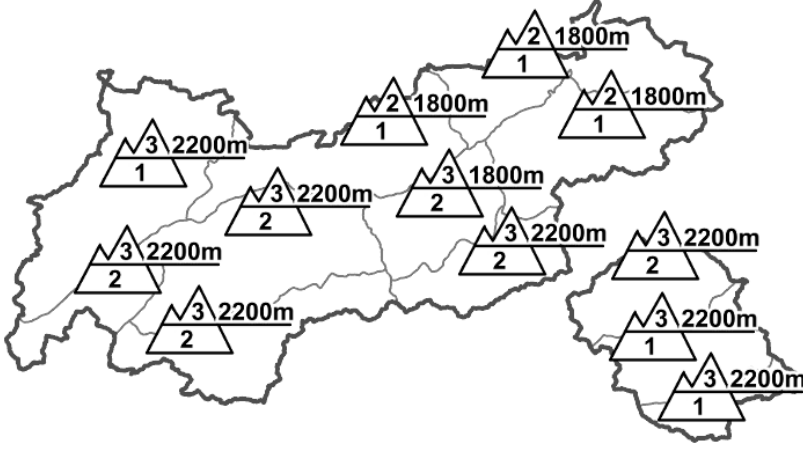












Regional Avalanche Danger Levels in alpine areas from 24.01.2015 07:30 All-Day	WHAT? problem	WHERE? danger spots
	 drifting snow	 2200m  fresh-formed
	 persistent weak layer	 2200m  south of the Inn
<p>General Level Tirol</p> 	<p>Tendency tomorrow</p>  constant	

DANGER PATTERNS (DP): [dp.6 - loose snow and wind](#) [dp.7 - snow-poor zones in snow-rich surrounding](#) [dp.8 - surface hoar blanketed with snow](#)

Considerable danger widespread above 2200m

AVALANCHE DANGER

Avalanche danger in Tirol's backcountry touring regions remains considerable over widespread areas. The major peril lies in freshly formed and older snowdrift accumulations. They are often poorly bonded with the snowbase and can thus release by minimum additional loading, i.e. even the weight of one sole skier. Avalanche prone locations are found in wind-loaded terrain above approximately 2200m, particularly on W to N to E facing slopes. In isolated cases, avalanches can fracture down in the old snowpack, which is itself prone to triggering, then grow to medium size. Skiing and freeriding tours in outlying terrain demand experience in assessing the perils on-site.

SNOW LAYERING

There was a small amount of snowfall over widespread areas of Tirol last night. High altitude winds shifted to northwesterly and were blowing at moderate to brisk strength. Thus, above approximately 2200m fresh, relatively small-sized snowdrift accumulations formed anew. These drifted masses were deposited atop loosely packed new fallen snow in some places; on shady slopes also atop surface hoar. That makes the likelihood of triggering quite high. Especially in inneralpine touring regions and regions along the Main Alpine Ridge, the unfavourable structuring of the snowpack requires heightened attentiveness. For, lodged between hardened, encrusted layers, frequent layers of loose, faceted crystals lie embedded which can serve as a bed surface for avalanches.

ALPINE WEATHER FORECAST (ZAMG-WEATHER SERVICE INNSBRUCK)

Weather: The low over Italy is leaving the zone of influence for Austria and expanding. Simultaneously, a cold front is approaching which on Sunday will deliver moist, cold air masses to Tirol, together with some snowfall down to the valley floors. Mountain weather today: apart from a bit of residual cloud, visibility will be much better than yesterday, sunshine will be evident in the mountains. Temperatures below zero widespread. During the afternoon, fog will descend repeatedly. Sunshine and better visibility can be had between Carnic Alps, Dolomites and the Ortler range. Temperature at 2000m, -9 degrees; at 3000m, -12 degrees. Light to moderate winds shifting from northeasterly to northwesterly.

SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

Increasing avalanche danger due to new fallen snow

Rudi Mair

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe