



Regional Avalanche Danger Levels in alpine areas from 26.01.2015 07:30 <span style="color: red;">All-Day</span>	WHAT? problem	WHERE? danger spots		
	 drifting snow	 2000m above treeline		
	 persistent weak layer	 2000m south of the Inn		
	<table border="0"> <tr> <td data-bbox="975 674 1166 857"> <b>General Level</b> Tirol </td> <td data-bbox="1166 674 1514 857"> <b>Tendency tomorrow</b>  constant             </td> </tr> </table>		<b>General Level</b> Tirol 	<b>Tendency tomorrow</b>  constant
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**DANGER PATTERNS (DP):** [dp.6 - loose snow and wind](#) [dp.1 - deep persistent weak layer](#) [dp.7 - snow-poor zones in snow-rich surrounding](#)

## Beware freshly formed snowdrift accumulations, trigger-sensitive old snowpack

### AVALANCHE DANGER

Avalanche danger above the treeline remains considerable; below the treeline in northern regions, low; elsewhere, moderate. In northern regions, e.g. Arlberg, Ausserfern, Northern Alps, Kitzbühel Alps, it is the fresh snowdrift which requires the highest caution. Even minimum additional loading can trigger an avalanche. Danger zones are found increasingly in W to S to SE facing terrain; with some experience, the generally small-sized avalanche prone locations are easy to recognize. Further south the situation has another factor: a trigger-sensitive old snowpack. Danger zones are found on shady slopes above the treeline up to about 2600m, on sunny slopes above approximately 2300m. Avalanches can be triggered on slopes where snow is shallow, e.g. in transition zones from shallow to deep snow, even by minimum additional loading. Caution: in sunny terrain above about 2300m, avalanches can still be REMOTELY triggered, even in terrain which is only moderately steep.

### SNOW LAYERING

In northern regions there has been up to 40 cm of snowfall over the last few days, in the rest of Tirol approximately 10 cm. Due to low temperatures the snowfall was loose and cold, then transported by brisk winds. The snowdrift accumulations which formed as a result are brittle and prone to triggering because of the intense cold. This has been corroborated by numerous avalanches, which fortunately had no casualties. In addition, the old snowpack, especially south of the Arlberg, Northern Alps and Kitzbühel Alps, contains numerous deeply embedded crusts which are, in turn, interspersed with faceted, loose crystals. The bonding remains poor.

### ALPINE WEATHER FORECAST (ZAMG-WEATHER SERVICE INNSBRUCK)

Weather in general: A low over Iceland holds sway, sending a small intermediate high to Tirol this morning. A warm front from the northwest will terminate the dry phase this afternoon. Subsequently, it will become wintery again, bringing snowfall down to low lying areas. In South and East Tirol, northerly foehn winds will be interrupted today, but return tomorrow. Mountain weather today: lots of sunshine, northerly foehn winds in the mountains of South and East Tirol. Probably cloudless skies. In the splendidly snow-covered regions of northwestern Tirol, sunny this morning, turning cloudy this afternoon as a result of a warm front. In the Northern Alps east of the Karwendel all the way to the Tauern, cloud will disperse, sunshine is anticipated this afternoon. Temperature at 2000m, -9 degrees; at 3000m, -15 degrees. Light N to NW winds to begin with, becoming brisk later on.

### SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

Snowfall+wind = more frequent danger zones

Patrick Nairz

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe