



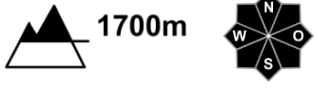






Regional Avalanche Danger Levels in alpine areas from 30.01.2015 07:30 <span style="color: red;">All-Day</span>	WHAT? problem	WHERE? danger spots
	 <p>drifting snow</p>	 <p>1400m</p> <p>widespread</p>
	 <p>persistent weak layer</p>	 <p>1700m</p> <p>also northern region</p>
	<p><b>General Level</b> Tirol</p>  <p><b>Tendency</b> tomorrow</p>  <p>constant</p>	

DANGER PATTERNS (DP): [dp.6 - loose snow and wind](#) [dp.1 - deep persistent weak layer](#) [dp.8 - surface hoar blanketed with snow](#)

## Avalanche scenario still treacherous for skiers and freeriders

### AVALANCHE DANGER

Avalanche danger still must be classified at the critical level 3. Danger levels at lower altitude where there is less wind are more favourable. The major hazards lie in freshly and recently formed snowdrift accumulations. Due to low temperatures and often strong winds, shifting from southerly to westerly to northerly, extremely trigger-sensitive drifted masses have accumulated over widespread areas, especially prevalent above the treeline. In addition, weak layers inside the snowpack near the ground, particularly south of the Arlberg, Northern Alps and Kitzbühel Alps, continue to threaten on shady slopes above 1600m, since a very weak layer has been discovered inside the old snowpack. Depending on winds and snowfall intensity, naturally triggered avalanches are easily possible today. In backcountry terrain away from secured ski slopes, extensive experience in assessing hazards on-site is essential.

### SNOW LAYERING

The snowpack throughout Tirol is poorly structured. It is better on sunny slopes below approximately 2000m. Last night between 1600 and 2000m thin crusts with faceted crystals beneath them formed on isolated shady slopes. They are prone to triggering. Weak layers near the ground are prevalent on shady slopes between approximately 2000 and 2600 m, on sunny slopes above approximately 2300m, south of the Arlberg, Northern Alps and Kitzbühel Alps. Freshly formed snowdrift is easily triggered at the borderline to the layer of powder snow lying directly beneath it.

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

Mountain weather today: conditions in the mountains are unpleasant and problematic, strong to storm-velocity westerly winds are whipping snow flurries, visibility is often impeded by fog. This afternoon the snow showers will taper off and visibility improve, but the major obstacle remains the cold and the wind. Temperature at 2000m, -11 degrees; at 3000m, -19 degrees. Strong to storm-strength westerly to northwesterly winds.

### SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

Above the treeline, the delicate avalanche scenario goes on.

Patrick Nairz

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe