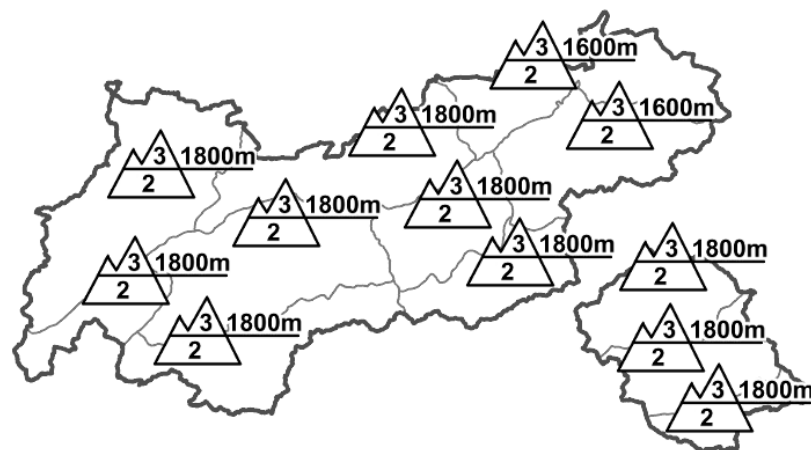












Regional Avalanche Danger Levels in alpine areas from 31.01.2015 07:30 All-Day	WHAT? problem	WHERE? danger spots
	 drifting snow	 1800m  above treeline
	 persistent weak layer	 2000m  south of the Inn
	General Level Tirol  Tendency tomorrow  constant	

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

Above 1800m considerable danger widespread. Prudent route selection!

AVALANCHE DANGER

Avalanche danger above the treeline is considerable in general; below that altitude, moderate. The major peril still stems from recently formed snowdrift accumulations above the treeline. Due to strong winds which shifted directions repeatedly over the last few days, fresh snowdrift has accumulated in all directions. With experience, the danger zones can be recognized with ease. What is more difficult is assessing the trigger-sensitive old snowpack. Avalanche prone locations are found on shady slopes in the Kitzbühel Alps between about 1600 and 1900 m; in the regions south of the Arlberg, Northern Alps and Kitzbühel Alps on shady slopes between approximately 2000 and 2600 m; on sunny slopes above approximately 2300 m. Slab avalanches can be triggered especially where the snow is shallow, e.g. in transitions from shallow to deep snow. Special caution is urged in shady terrain near forests, especially in the Tux, Zillertal Alps and in central East Tirol, where increasing numbers of slab avalanches have recently fractured deep down in the old snowpack.

SNOW LAYERING

Once again there has been snowfall in Tirol, generally about 5 cm, in southern East Tirol as much as 25 cm from place to place. The dominant weather element is once again the wind which is bringing about further snow transport. The fresh snowdrift is frequently poorly bonded with the loose, powder layers beneath it, particularly above the treeline. Older drifted masses have in the interim bonded well with the snowbase beneath them. What remains problematic: the old snowpack. Interspersed between rain crusts, wind crusts, melt-freeze crusts often lie embedded loose, faceted snow crystals. Stability tests have shown a slight tendency of improvement, but in many places the proneness to triggering is still heightened.

ALPINE WEATHER FORECAST (ZAMG-WEATHER SERVICE INNSBRUCK)

Mountain weather today: A bit of snowfall arrived again last night, but it will soon recede, bright skies soon appear and some sunshine brighten the day. On the southern flank of the Alps, bright skies right from the start. During the afternoon, cloud will move in from the west. Temperature at 2000m, -9 degrees; at 3000m, -16 degrees. Moderate westerly winds, stronger at high altitudes.

SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

The situation will improve only very slowly

Patrick Nairz

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe