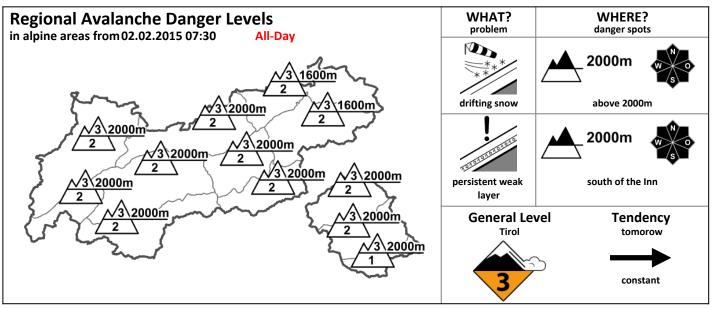


Avalanche Bulletin of the Avalanche Warning Service Tyrol Monday, 02.02.2015, at 07:30 Uhr





DANGER PATTERNS (DP): <u>dp.6 - loose snow and wind</u> <u>dp.7 - snow-poor zones in snow-rich surrounding</u> <u>dp.1 - deep persistent</u> <u>weak layer</u>

New snowdrift: considerable avalanche danger widespread

AVALANCHE DANGER

Avalanche danger in Tirol's backcountry touring regions is considerable over widespread areas above approximately 2000m. The major peril stems from freshly formed snowdrift accumulations which are inadequately bonded to the old snowpack surface beneath them and thus, can trigger an avalanche even by minimum additional loading. Avalanche prone locations are found on wind-loaded slopes in all aspects. Also the transitions from shallow to deep snow need to be evaluated with great caution. Frequency and spread of danger zones tend to increase with ascending altitude. If an avalanche fractures down to the old snowpack, it can grow to medium size.

SNOW LAYERING

Snow showers, especially in the Silvretta, Arlberg-Ausserfern regions and along the Northern Alps, brought a few centimeters of new fallen snow over the last 24 hours. High altitude westerly winds were blowing at moderate to strong velocity, once again transporting the snowfall and accumulating newly drifted masses. Both new fallen and drifted snows now cover a snowpack which suffered heavy impact from winds. In wind-protected zones there is often still light, loose powder; sometimes the surface is hard-compressed. All in all, the bonding of fresh snowdrift to the old snowpack surface is inadequate, the proneness to triggering quite high.

ALPINE WEATHER FORECAST (ZAMG-WEATHER SERVICE INNSBRUCK)

Weather: a powerful low has wide ranging sectors of Europe in its grip. Arctic air is penetrating this system via northwesterly winds, bringing cold to the Alps. A perturbance will pass through northern regions today, tomorrow conditions will improve temporarily. Mountain weather today: on the northern flank of the Alps, low temperatures and variably cloudy skies, visibility quite unstable, intermittent snow showers with the focus along the Northern Limestone Alps to the Kitzbühel Alps. About 10-15 cm of new fallen snow is anticipated. In the inneralpine mountain ranges as far as the Main Alpine Ridge, bright intervals are expected, only a few snow showers. On the southern flank of the Alps, sunnier the further you go from the Main Ridge. Temperature at 2000m, -11 degrees; at 3000m, -18 degrees. Moderate to brisk westerly to northwesterly winds at high altitudes.

SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

Still treacherous avalanche scenario, danger level still considerable

Rudi Mair

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe