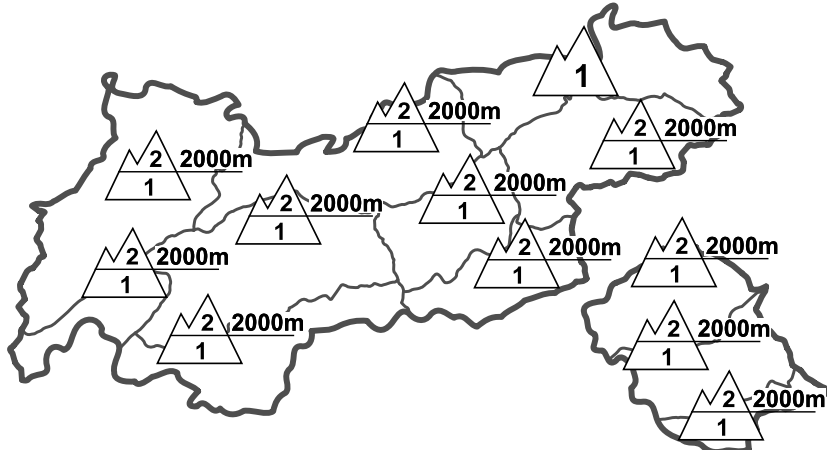

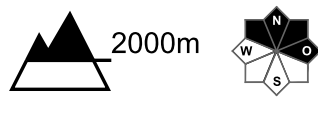

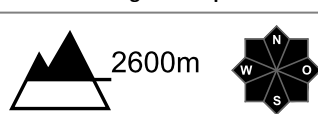






Regional Avalanche Danger Levels in alpine areas from 23.02.2015 07:30 All-Day		WHAT? problem	WHERE? danger spots
		 drifting snow	 2000m ridgeline slopes
		 old snow	 2600m isolated
		General Level Tirol 	Tendency tomorrow  constant

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

Beware small drifts, esp. in shady ridgeline steep terrain

AVALANCHE DANGER

Generally favourable conditions prevail. In northeastern regions the danger level is low. Elsewhere it is moderate above approximately 2000m and low below that altitude. The major hazards stem from generally small, freshly formed snowdrift accumulations at high altitudes, frequently in steep ridgeline terrain in NW to N to E aspects. In shady terrain most of all, as well as in general on very steep ridgeline slopes, these drifts can be triggered, in many places by only minimum additional loading. With experience these danger zones can easily be recognized and circumvented. In addition, isolated avalanche prone locations are found in extremely steep terrain (including on sunny slopes in high alpine regions) where older, somewhat deeper drifted masses can release in transitions from shallow to deep snow, usually by large additional loading.

SNOW LAYERING

Only a few centimeters of snowfall was deposited on a highly irregular old snowpack surface. What matters most: during the recent period of fine weather, large-sized surface hoar crystals formed in ridgeline terrain. They were then blanketed by freshly formed, usually small-sized snowdrift accumulations. The bonding of drifts to hoar is inadequate, the proneness to triggering correspondingly high. Inside the old snow cover, problematic layers are rare. Some faceted crystals interspersed between hardened embedded crusts occur in isolated cases which could serve as bed surface for avalanche fractures, especially on sunny slopes above approximately 2800m and on shady slopes around 2600m.

ALPINE WEATHER FORECAST (ZAMG-WEATHER SERVICE INNSBRUCK)

Weather: high pressure to start with, accompanied by foehn-conditions, before a cold front arrives. That front will reach the Uplands of Tirol as of midday. A low is also forming over Italy which will reach us on Wednesday. Mountain weather today: perfect visibility this morning, frequent sunshine. As of midday, dense cloud cover will move in from the Arlberg and Lechtal regions, the western sector of the Main Alpine Ridge will also become overcast. Above local fogbanks, predominantly sunny weather in the Lowlands of Tirol. Temperature at 2000m, -2 degrees; at 3000m, -5 degrees. Strong winds from southwest to west.

SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

No significant change. During the day, intensifying SW winds will give rise to new snowdrifts.

Patrick Nairz

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe