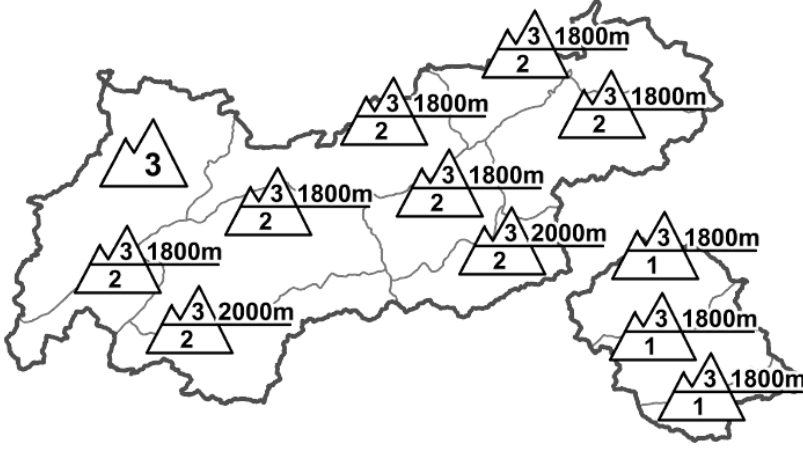












Regional Avalanche Danger Levels in alpine areas from 03.03.2015 07:30 <span style="color: red;">All-Day</span>	WHAT? problem	WHERE? danger spots
	 drifting snow	 1800m  above treeline
	 persistent weak layer	 1800m  small-sized
<p><b>General Level</b> Tirol</p> 	<p><b>Tendency</b> tomorrow</p>  constant	

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

## Delicate scenario in western regions

### AVALANCHE DANGER

The first day of fine weather after a period of stormy winds and snowfall tends to be especially accident-prone. That means today! Particularly in western and northwestern regions where there was 50 cm of new fallen snow since yesterday, danger above the treeline is at least at the critical upper reaches of level 3. In other parts of Tirol, danger levels above the treeline are considerable; below that altitude, frequently moderate; in East Tirol, low. The major peril stems from wide ranging snowdrift accumulations which have formed over the last few days and are prevalent in shady treeline terrain and above the treeline in all aspects. The rule of thumb is: both frequency and proneness to triggering of these drifts increase with ascending altitude. For that reason, we advise skiers to studiously avoid very steep wind-loaded slopes. The scenario in wind-protected terrain is better, as it is further to the southeast where there was less snowfall. The main danger there lies in the recently formed but not as widespread snowdrift accumulations.

### SNOW LAYERING

The snowpack was impacted by rainfall yesterday, generally up to 1300m, but in some places up to 1800m, particularly in western regions. Atop of that came snowfall, most in the Silvretta-Samnaun and Arlberg-Ausserfern regions, as well as the western parts of the Northern Alps: as much as 50 cm. In the other parts of North Tirol and in northern East Tirol there was generally 10-20 cm of new fallen snow, locally as much as 30 cm, in southern East Tirol about 5 cm. Storm-strength winds were the predominant factor, even extending to low altitudes. Recently formed snowdrift accumulations are highly prone to triggering, threatening to fracture in the following places: either at the borderline to the loose, light, cold new fallens snow; or at the borderline with the surface hoar in shady terrain in particular in terrain around and above the treeline and in shady forested zones up to about 2300m.

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

Mountain weather today: winds will taper off noticeably, the mountains will become freer of cloud and some sunshine will make itself felt, even if some peaks will remain shrouded. Especially the Main Alpine Ridge is veiled in fog. This afternoon from the southwest, cloud cover will again move in. Temperature at 2000m, -5 degrees; at 3000m, -11 degrees. Westerly, later slightly foehn-like southwesterly winds will slacken off to moderate strength.

### SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

The avalanche situation will slowly improve. Main danger still: snowdrifts.

Patrick Nairz

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe