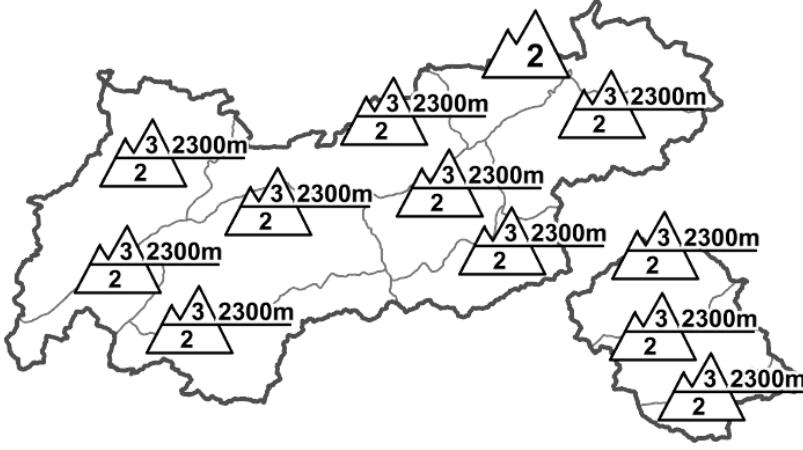










| Regional Avalanche Danger Levels in alpine areas from 04.03.2015 07:30 All-Day | | WHAT? problem | WHERE? danger spots |
|--|--|--|--|
|  |  drifting snow |  2300m ridgeline slopes | |
| |  persistent weak layer |  1800m isolated | |
| | General Level Tirol  | | Tendency tomorrow  constant |

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

Considerable avalanche danger widespread above 2300m. Beware fresh drifts.

AVALANCHE DANGER

Above 2300m considerable avalanche danger continues to prevail. Below that altitude, yesterday's beautiful weather had a positive effect on the avalanche situation due to intense solar radiation; for that reason the danger level beneath the treeline is moderate, often low. Avalanche prone locations are found primarily in very steep ridgeline terrain above approximately 2300m, where recently formed snowdrift accumulations can be triggered even by minimum additional loading. With ascending altitude the proneness to triggering tends to increase. Caution urged especially on very steep slopes in shady treeline zones up to about 2300m which were wind-protected before the recent snowfall: slab avalanches can fracture down to weak layers in the old snowpack even under the weight of skiers. In western regions where snowfall has been heaviest, gliding avalanches are possible on steep slopes.

SNOW LAYERING

The snowpack settled yesterday. Beneath about 2300m, daytime warming and solar radiation stabilised it somewhat. The recently accumulated snowdrift masses can be triggered most often only at high altitudes at the borderline to the loose, light powder snow beneath them. Settling sounds and glide cracks in the snowpack surface above about 2300 m are indicators of imminent release. Faceted crystals inside the old snowpack, together with surface hoar, can serve as bed surfaces for slab avalanches particularly in shady treeline zones up to about 2300 m.

ALPINE WEATHER FORECAST (ZAMG-WEATHER SERVICE INNSBRUCK)

Mountain weather today: wintery. The mountains on the northern flank of the Alps are generally hidden in fog, intermittent snowfall is anticipated. All in all, 5-15 cm of fresh fallen snow could fall, from place to place more. South of the Main Alpine Ridge, pleasant conditions to start with; this afternoon, snow showers will pass through, bringing only a small amount of new fallen snow. Temperature at 2000m, -5 to -9 degrees; at 3000m, -10 to -17 degrees. Moderate NW winds, intermittently gusty in high alpine regions.

SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

Caution: snowfall and wind will create new snowdrifts at high altitudes.

Patrick Nairz

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe