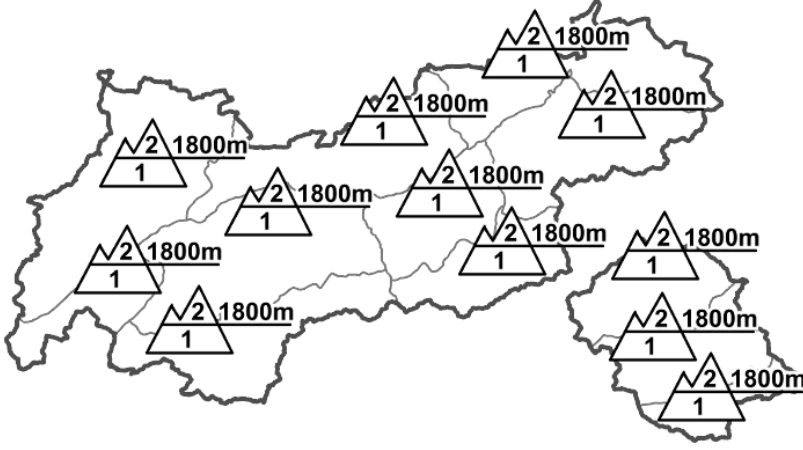








Regional Avalanche Danger Levels in alpine areas from 28.04.2015 14:00 All-Day	
	
WHAT? problem  wet snow	WHERE? danger spots  2800m low, shady spots
General Level Tirol 	Tendency tomorrow  constant

DANGER PATTERNS (DP): [dp.10 - springtime szenario](#)

Major peril: very steep, shady slopes at 2100-2400m

AVALANCHE DANGER

Avalanche danger continues to stem from the wetness of the snowpack. Between about 1800 and 2800 m, general avalanche danger is moderate; above 2800m, low. Most caution is required in very steep, shady terrain at 2100-2400m, where slab avalanches can be triggered primarily by large additional loading. On west and east facing slopes this hazard (due to markedly lower temperatures) prevails at 2400-2600m. In northwestern regions where snowfall was heaviest, small avalanches are expected in steep, rocky terrain tomorrow (29 April).

SNOW LAYERING

The combination of rising temperatures, convective cloud build-up and diffuse solar radiation led to a further deterioration of the snowpack yesterday, the degree of wetness was raised another notch. In addition, the snowpack consolidated only very slightly during the night. The new fallen snow (above 1800m in western regions) tends to insulate the moist/wet snowpack at intermediate altitudes, further reducing the consolidation. On the other hand, at high altitudes and in zones where there was little precipitation the cold front moving across Tirol has a stabilising effect. Bed surfaces for potential slab avalanches are found in the wet, formerly faceted-crystal layers (now melted) interspersed between old layers inside the snowpack, particularly near embedded crusts. Below about 1800m there is either no snow at all or the snowpack has become "listless" due to cycles of wetness and refreezing, thereby reducing its proneness to triggering.

ALPINE WEATHER FORECAST (ZAMG-WEATHER SERVICE INNSBRUCK)

Weather: a cold front has reached the northern regions of North Tirol, bringing moist air masses and noticeably lower temperatures (snowfall level could descend even down to the hills). Tomorrow, Wednesday, an intermediate high will supply a brief interim of pleasant, dry, warmer weather. On Thursday the next cold front will arrive. Forecast for the coming days: fronts will arrive from the west one after the other, the first among them on Thursday with rain and cold. The snowfall level will descend down to about 1500m. On Friday, 1 May, cloud will dominate, conditions will remain rainy, too cool for this juncture of the season. Over the weekend, cloudy, intermittently rainy weather will prevail, with somewhat higher temperatures (reaching 20 degrees on Sunday).

SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

The roller-coaster weather will make avalanche danger levels rise and fall correspondingly. Main hazard: the increasingly wet snowpack. Next update: 30 April at about 5:00 pm.

Patrick Nairz

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe