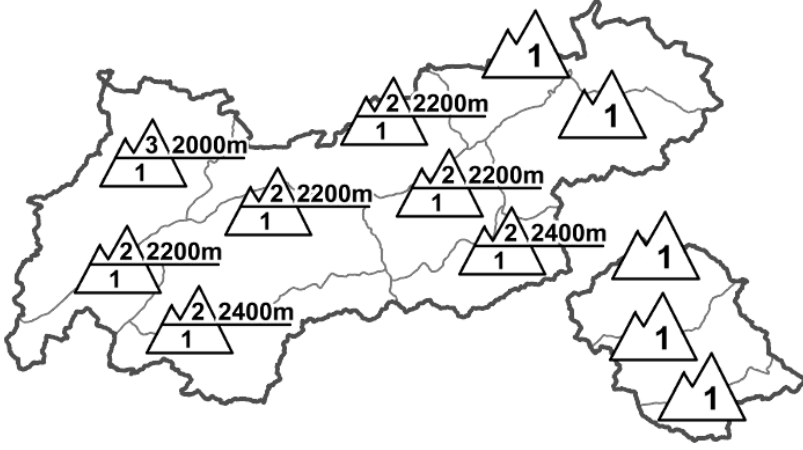



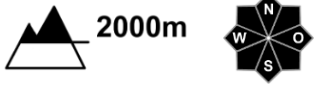






Regional Avalanche Danger Levels in alpine areas from 06.01.2016 07:30 All-Day		WHAT? problem	WHERE? danger spots
	 persistent weak layer	 2200m especially in bowls	
	 drifting snow	 2000m increasing with altitude	
	General Level Tirol 	Tendency tomorrow  constant	

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

Beware fresh drifts above approximately 2000m, esp. on steep, shady slopes.

AVALANCHE DANGER

In the Arlberg regions where snowfall and storm-strength winds were greatest in recent days, considerable avalanche danger prevails above approximately 2000m; below that altitude, the danger level is low. Elsewhere, the danger levels in western regions are moderate above about 2200m; below that altitude, low. In eastern regions, i.e. eastern sector of the Northern Alps, Kitzbühel Alps, East Tirol, low danger continues. The conditions for freeriding and skiing tours are still quite poor, except for the furthestmost western regions of Tirol; but it would be erroneous to mistake lack of snow for lack of danger. Avalanche prone locations are to be found in shady, steep gullies, bowls and areas adjacent to ridgelines, where fresh drifts lurk atop loosely-packed, unbonded old snow, thus are triggerable even by minimum additional loading, i.e. the weight of one person. This has been corroborated by reports from tourers, by artificial triggerings, the appearance of cracks, "whumpfung" noises of the snow settling, as well as remote triggering in western regions. The rule of thumb is: the danger zones are generally small-sized, the drifted masses shallow except in the Arlberg region. Caution urged towards the hazards of falling when sluffs release.

SNOW LAYERING

The snow depths are still too meagre for this juncture of the season, although western regions have received some new fallen snow (most of it in the Arlberg region, 50 cm). The peril currently stems from fresh drifts which on shady slopes are inadequately bonded with the loosely-packed old snow surface beneath them. This applies to altitudes between 2200 and 2800 m in particular; above about 3300 m also on sunny slopes. In addition, the fresh fallen snow in areas adjacent to ridgelines is a weak layer wherever it was not influenced by winds and thus, transported to form drifts.

ALPINE WEATHER FORECAST (ZAMG-WEATHER SERVICE INNSBRUCK)

Mountain weather today: a bit of sunshine to begin with. In western regions, cloud will move in during the morning, spread in the afternoon to eastern regions. Light snow showers will be the likely result. Most sunshine expected in East Tirol and the Dolomites. Temperature at 2000m, -6 degrees; at 3000m, -13 degrees. Only in high alpine regions will the westerly wind become brisker over the course of the day.

SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

snowdrifts remain trigger-sensitive on shady slopes

Patrick Nairz

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe