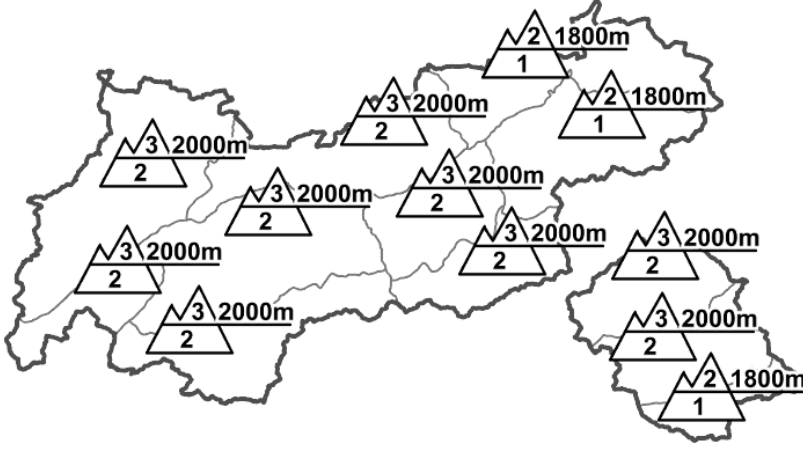












Regional Avalanche Danger Levels in alpine areas from 13.01.2016 07:30 All-Day	WHAT? problem	WHERE? danger spots
	 drifting snow	 2000m  fresh, trigger-sensitive
	 persistent weak layer	 2000m  mostly shady slopes
<p>General Level Tirol</p> 	<p>Tendency tomorrow</p>  constant	

DANGER PATTERNS (DP): [dp.6 - loose snow and wind](#) [dp.1 - deep persistent weak layer](#) [dp.9 - graupel blanketed with snow](#)

Considerable avalanche danger widespread above 2000m

AVALANCHE DANGER

The avalanche danger level above approximately 2000m is considerable over widespread areas. Fresh and older snowdrift accumulations are still prone to triggering and can release as avalanches even by minimum additional loading, i.e. the weight of one sole skier. Avalanche prone locations are found in all aspects, predominantly on wind-loaded slopes. Yesterday, apart from settling noises ("whumpf") and shooting cracks, naturally and artificially triggered releases, as well as avalanches triggered by skiers, were registered. These observations corroborate the high trigger sensitivity of the snowpack. Skiing and freeriding tours in outlying terrain currently require a great deal of experience in evaluating the dangers on-site. Backcountry touring possibilities are limited.

SNOW LAYERING

During the last 24 hours in the Silvretta, in the Arlberg/Ausserfern region and in the western sector of the Northern Alps, there was 15-25 cm of new fallen snow. In the remaining regions of North Tirol there was generally 5-10 cm, with the snowfall level just under 1000m. Strong to stormy westerly winds once again transported the snow masses. Fresh and older snowdrift accumulations now generally blanket an unfavourably structured old snowpack: interspersed between hardened crusts embedded inside it are loose and faceted snow crystals and graupel which fell in showers on Monday. In many cases, the uppermost layers of snowdrift are still too soft to transfer area-wide tensions. However as strong winds persist, they will harden, become brittle and thus, more prone to triggering.

ALPINE WEATHER FORECAST (ZAMG-WEATHER SERVICE INNSBRUCK)

Weather: Tirol lies in the path of a stormy westerly to northwesterly air current which is incrementally pushing moist and quite cold air masses its way. As the weekend approaches, a low over northern Europe will move southwards and it will turn colder. Mountain weather today: the higher mountain regions in particular will be shrouded repeatedly in cloud, accompanied by intermittent snowfall and poor visibility. By tomorrow morning in the Arlberg and Northern Alps, up to 20 cm of fresh fallen snow is anticipated, elsewhere about 10 cm, which will be intensely transported by storm-strength winds. Sunny in the Southern Alps. Temperature at 2000 m, -8 degrees; at 3000 m, -15 degrees. Westerly to northwesterly winds, blowing at strong to storm force, slackening off during the night.

SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

Snowfall and strong winds keep avalanche danger considerable.

Rudi Mair

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe