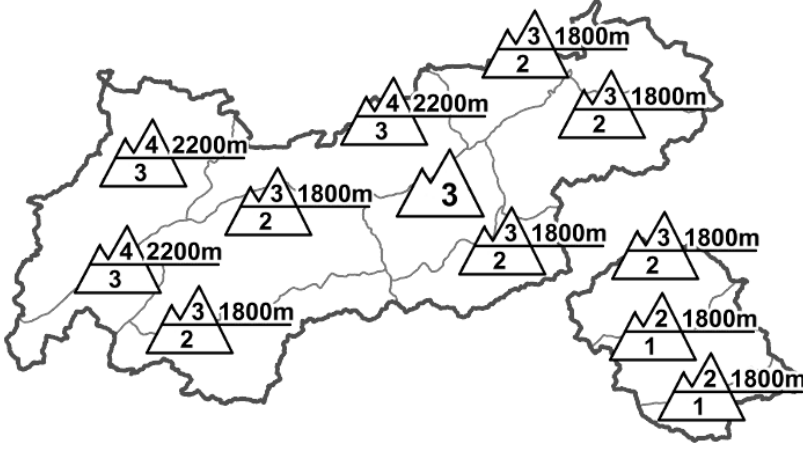

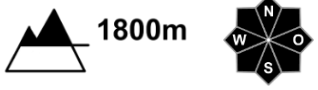

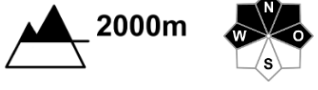






Regional Avalanche Danger Levels in alpine areas from 16.01.2016 07:30 All-Day	WHAT? problem	WHERE? danger spots
	 drifting snow	 1800m fresh, trigger-sensitive
	 persistent weak layer	 2000m mostly shady slopes
<p>General Level Tirol</p> 	<p>Tendency tomorrow</p>  constant	

DANGER PATTERNS (DP): [dp.6 - loose snow and wind](#) [dp.1 - deep persistent weak layer](#) [dp.7 - snow-poor zones in snow-rich surrounding](#)

Treacherous scenario, considerable danger widespread

AVALANCHE DANGER

The avalanche situation in Tirol's backcountry touring regions remains tense and threatening. The danger level is considerable widespread; in the areas which have recently had heavy snowfall, high. The major peril stems from continuously forming snowdrift accumulations which are brittle and extremely prone to triggering. Avalanches can trigger even by minimum additional loading, i.e. the weight of one sole skier. Avalanche prone locations are found on steep slopes in all aspects above approximately 1800m, in drifted gullies and bowls, and in transitions from deep to shallow snow. Backcountry skiing and freeriding tours require much experience in evaluating the hazards on-site. The touring possibilities in outlying terrain are limited. Particularly in those regions where snowfall has been heaviest, increasingly frequent naturally triggered avalanches threaten. These can in isolated cases endanger exposed transportation routes.

SNOW LAYERING

Last night in the northern barrier zones there was an additional 20 cm of fresh fallen snow added to the snow cover; in inneralpine zones and along the Main Alpine Ridge, only a few centimeters. Strong to stormy westerly winds once again transported the snow. The freshly formed and older snowdrift accumulations above 2000m blanket an unfavourably structured snowpack. Especially the layers near the ground are faceted, loosely-packed and very prone to triggering. Settling noises ("whumpf"), shooting cracks and natural triggerings confirm this peril decisively. Attention: more snowfall plus NW winds will over transport strength will form new drifts continuously today. They will be brittle as a result of the low temperatures, thus easily triggered.

ALPINE WEATHER FORECAST (ZAMG-WEATHER SERVICE INNSBRUCK)

Weather: in the wake of a low over eastern Europe, arctic air masses are moving towards central Europe which will be blocked by the alpine barrier over the weekend, bringing renewed snowfall. On the southern flank of the Alps, northerly foehn wind will be unleashed. Mountain weather today: on the northern flank of the Alps, poor visibility due to fog, and snow showers with winds whipping up the fresh fallen snow; in the Northern Alps, 20-30 cm of new fallen snow anticipated. Small bright patches, especially this afternoon, between the Samnaun Range and the southern Ötztal and Stubai Alps, where only 5-10 of new fallen snow is expected. In the Dolomites and Carnic Alps, bright intervals, partly sunny, but icy winds. Temperature at 2000m: -12 degrees; at 3000m, -20 degrees. Moderate NW winds.

SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

Treacherous situation not expected to ease yet.

Rudi Mair

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe