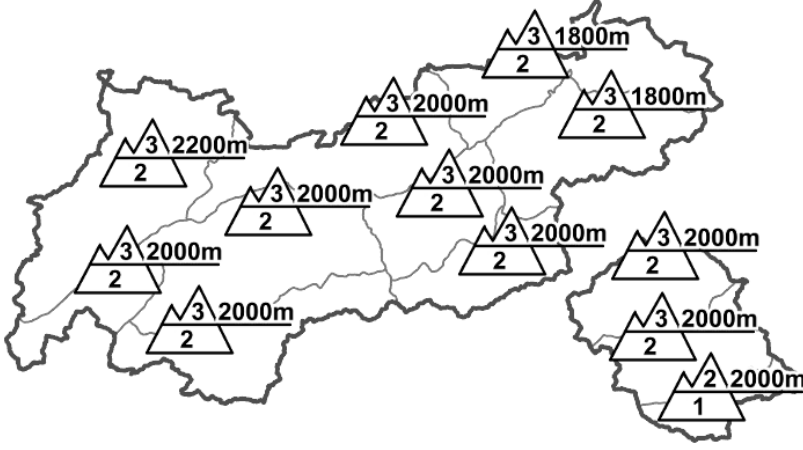














Regional Avalanche Danger Levels in alpine areas from 19.01.2016 07:30 <span style="color: red;">All-Day</span>	WHAT? problem	WHERE? danger spots		
	 persistent weak layer	 2000m esp. shady slopes		
	 drifting snow	 2000m increasing with altitude		
	<table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; text-align: center;"> <b>General Level</b> Tirol  3             </td> <td style="width: 50%; text-align: center;"> <b>Tendency</b> tomorrow  constant             </td> </tr> </table>		<b>General Level</b> Tirol  3	<b>Tendency</b> tomorrow  constant
<b>General Level</b> Tirol  3	<b>Tendency</b> tomorrow  constant			

**DANGER PATTERNS (DP):** [dp.1](#) - deep persistent weak layer [dp.6](#) - loose snow and wind [dp.2](#) - gliding snow

### Highly trigger-sensitive snowpack, esp. shady terrain above 2000m

#### AVALANCHE DANGER

The avalanche situation remains tense and threatening, at least above 2000m. In many places, a critical grade Level 3 has been reached (excluding southern East Tirol). Situation far better below the treeline (moderate, Level 2). But even there on steep slopes in sparsely wooded areas unfavourable conditions often prevail. The risks are threefold: most critical is the old snow risk above about 2000m (in the Arlberg region above about 2200m) in W/NW to N to W/NE aspects. Above about 2800m the risk prevails even on sunny slopes. The ground-level, loose layer is weak, can easily trigger. This is also possible in flat terrain, which needs to be considered at the foot of steep slopes. Secondly, the snowdrifts, particularly the masses which have formed since Sunday. The most threatening are those which formed as winds were rising: in all aspects above the treeline. Lastly, in the western regions where snowfall has been heaviest, gliding snow is a problem.

#### SNOW LAYERING

The snowpack above the treeline remains prone to triggering, particularly at altitudes above about 2000m in W/NW to N to E/NE aspects where deep layers are faceted and depth hoar can serve as a potential bed surface for slab avalanches. Most of the recent avalanches fractured at this layer. An additional threat is the loose, cold powder snow which currently is being blanketed by fresh drifts in areas adjacent to ridgelines.

#### ALPINE WEATHER FORECAST (ZAMG-WEATHER SERVICE INNSBRUCK)

Mountain weather today: clouds will hide the sun, but in the morning visibility will still be adequate. Clouds will thicken later on, diffuse light will be the result in northern and western regions. Then, fog over the Northern Alps, light snowfall. Most sunshine can be expected in the Dolomites and Carnic Alps. Tonight in northern regions, light snowfall (5-10 cm), most of it around the Arlberg. Temperature at 2000m, -9 degrees; at 3000m, -15 degrees. Moderate to strong W/NW winds.

#### SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

Apart from trigger-sensitive shady slopes, fresh drifts also threaten.

Patrick Nairz

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe