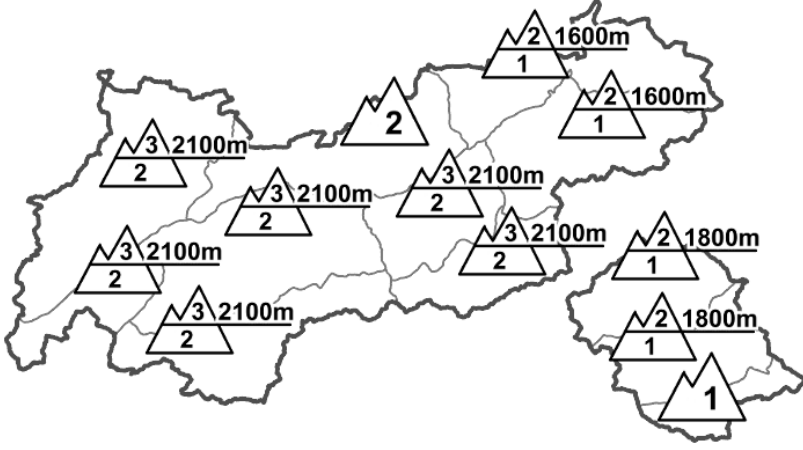












| Regional Avalanche Danger Levels in alpine areas from 29.01.2016 07:30 All-Day | | WHAT? problem | WHERE? danger spots |
|--|--|--|--|
|  | |  persistent weak layer |  2100m highly varied  |
| | |  gliding snow |  2400m mostly in the west  |
| | | General Level Tirol  | Tendency tomorrow  constant |

DANGER PATTERNS (DP): [dp.1](#) - deep persistent weak layer [dp.7](#) - snow-poor zones in snow-rich surrounding [dp.2](#) - gliding snow

Old snow problem in inneralpine regions above 2100m

AVALANCHE DANGER

Avalanche danger above about 2100m is considerable widespread. Least favourable is the scenario in inneralpine regions, esp. Ötztal, Stubai, Tux and Zillertal Alps, where numerous avalanches involving people, but also spontaneously triggered releases, demonstrate an ongoingly trigger-sensitive snowpack due to recently high temperatures. This applies to N/NW to N to E/NE aspects above 2100m; above 2300m even on sunny slopes. In high alpine regions the proneness to triggering tends to diminish due to thicker ground-level layers. The tendency to spontaneous avalanches is not expected to worsen today. In the western regions where snowfall has been heavier, steep grassy slopes are still threatened by gliding avalanches.

SNOW LAYERING

Snow analysis, reports from backcountry skiers, artificial triggerings and spontaneous avalanches confirm the old snow problem, particularly in inneralpine regions, but also in the southern sector of the Arlberg and Silvretta-Samnaun regions. Above 2100m in those regions, ground-level layers are riddled with faceted crystals and melt-freeze crusts. All the slab avalanches of the last few days have fractured there. The problem starts at 2100m in W to N to E aspects; above 2300m, also in S aspects, particularly where the snowpack held up until New Year's Eve.

ALPINE WEATHER FORECAST (ZAMG-WEATHER SERVICE INNSBRUCK)

Mountain weather today: final snow showers of the weak cold front, particularly from Karwendel to Wilder Kaiser to Kitzbühel Alps and Hohe Tauern (snowfall level 1600m). Sunshine will slowly set in, coming from the west, most ranges will be sunny by this afternoon. Skies will be clear tonight. Temperature at 2000m, +1 degree; at 3000m, -4 degrees. Moderate to brisk NW winds.

SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

The old snow problem will persist.

Patrick Nairz

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe