











Regional Avalanche Danger Levels in alpine areas from 30.01.2016 07:30 All-Day		WHAT? problem	WHERE? danger spots
		 persistent weak layer	 2200m all aspects 
		 gliding snow	 2400m regions with most snow 
General Level Tirol 		Tendency tomorrow  increasing	

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

Considerable danger widespread in Main Ridge and inneralpine areas

AVALANCHE DANGER

The avalanche danger in Tirol's backcountry touring regions remains considerable from region to region. This applies most of all to the inneralpine zones and the regions along the Main Alpine Ridge. The major threat persists: extremely trigger-sensitive layering inside the old snowpack. Avalanches can still be triggered by minimum additional loading, i.e. one single person. Avalanche prone locations are found primarily on W/NW to N to E/NE slopes above approximately 2200 m. Above approximately 2400m, even sunny slopes are endangered. Transitions from deep to shallow snow must be assessed quite critically. Below about 2400m on steep, grass-covered slopes, isolated gliding avalanches can trigger spontaneously, particularly in the western regions where snowfall has been heavier.

SNOW LAYERING

Mild temperatures and intensifying solar radiation are making the snowpack thoroughly wet, particularly on steep, sunny slopes up to about 3000m; on shady slopes up to about 2400m. Due to below-average snow depths, the entire snowpack is often thoroughly wet up to intermediate altitudes. The poor structure of the old snowpack still demands great caution: above about 2200m, loose, faceted snow crystals lie embedded, usually interspersed between hardened crusts. Since this highly trigger-sensitive fundament is often blanketed with insufficient amounts of later snowfall, it can release with relative ease. The layering in the inneralpine touring regions, in southern parts of the Arlberg region and in Silvretta/Samnaun is particularly inadequate and threatening.

ALPINE WEATHER FORECAST (ZAMG-WEATHER SERVICE INNSBRUCK)

Weather: an intermediate high will disperse on Saturday. On Sunday a powerful W/SW air current will replace it. A strong perturbation system will be with us until Monday, accompanied by lots of wind and heavy precipitation. The very mild air masses will persist. On Monday, conditions will become more tranquil. Mountain weather today: a superb day for winter sports in the mountains. Lost of sunshine, good visibility well into the afternoon. Southerly foehn winds around the Wipp Valley axis. Subsequently, cloud cover will increase incrementally. Winds will intensify by evening, especially in the Northern Alps. Tonight comes the crash: snowfall and storm force winds. Temperature at 2000m, +2 degrees; at 3000m, -5 degrees. Moderate to brisk high altitude winds; in the Tux Alps and around the Wipp Valley axis, strong SW winds. Tonight, storm-force westerly winds everywhere.

SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

Heavy snowfall, later rainfall, stormy winds: marked rise in avalanche danger.

Rudi Mair

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