
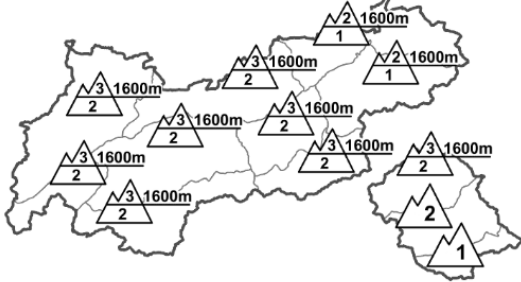
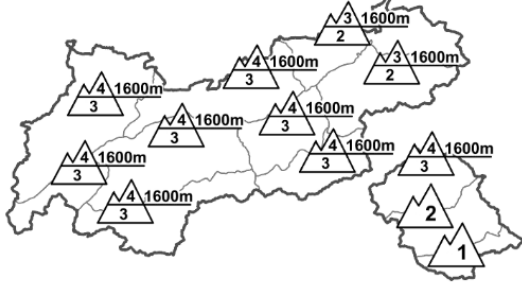











Regional Avalanche Danger Levels in alpine areas from 31.01.2016 07:30 MORNING		Regional Avalanche Danger Levels in alpine areas from 31.01.2016 07:30 AFTERNOON		Tendency tomorrow  constant
				
WHAT? - problem  new snow	WHERE? - danger spots  1600m  critical mass of snowfall	WHAT? - problem  persistent weak layer	WHERE? - danger spots  2000m  very prone to triggering	General Level Tirol 

DANGER PATTERNS (DP): [dp.6 - loose snow and wind](#) [dp.1 - deep persistent weak layer](#) [dp.3 - rain](#)

Snowfall+rain+storm = High avalanche danger widespread this afternoon

AVALANCHE DANGER

Critical avalanche scenario: during the course of the day, Level 4 / High danger will be reached over widespread areas. Attention: above approximately 1600m over the day, the critical mass of fresh fallen snow will be reached or exceeded, after which naturally triggered loosely-packed and slab avalanches can be expected. These can be large-sized and even place exposed transportation routes at risk. Below about 2200m, the snowpack will significantly lose its firmness due to the ascending snowfall level, rainfall will set in. At that point, wet-snow avalanches can be expected to trigger spontaneously. From these, too, exposed transportation routes are endangered. Unfavourable conditions prevail in outlying terrain, backcountry skiing and freeriding possibilities are severely limited. The inexperienced are urgently warned: not today!

SNOW LAYERING

Last night it began to snow, the snowfall level slowly dropping down to low lying areas. In the Arlberg/Ausserfern regions and in the Northern Alps, there was about 30 cm of new fallen snow; in the Silvretta/Samnaun, maximum 20 cm; in remaining North Tirol and the East Tirolean Tauern Ridge, about 10 cm. Today heavy snowfall will continue, but the snowfall level will ascend again. High altitude NW winds will intensify. In high alpine regions, wide ranging snowdrift accumulations will form. At low and intermediate altitudes, the snowpack will forfeit its firmness massively from rain. Above 2000m, new fallen and newly drifted snow will soon blanket a weak, poorly layered, very trigger-sensitive old snowpack. The snow fundament consists of a succession of hardened crusts interspersed with very light, loose layers of crystals.

ALPINE WEATHER FORECAST (ZAMG-WEATHER SERVICE INNSBRUCK)

Mountain weather today: storm-force winds, heavy snowfall, fog, extremely inhospitable conditions. Moderate to heavy snowfall can be expected all day long, bringing large amounts of fresh fallen snow to Tirol's western regions and massive snow transport in general. Temperatures will then rise, the snowfall level ascend to about 1800m by Sunday evening, the snowpack will consequently settle suddenly and markedly. In the Arlberg region and Lechtal Alps above the treeline, 50 to 75 cm of new fallen snow is expected; on the Main Alpine Ridge to the Tauern and in the Karwendel range, 30 to 50 cm; in the Kitzbühel Alps, maximum 30 cm; in the Dolomites, far less fresh fallen snow than in the north. Not until Monday will conditions improve; it will remain stormy. Temperature at 2000m: -5 to -1 degree; at 3000m, -9 to -4 degrees. Storm strength westerly winds, later shifting to northwesterly, reaching gale-strength gust speeds of over 100 km/h tonight.

SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

Critical situation: considerable danger, sometimes high danger!

Rudi Mair

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe