
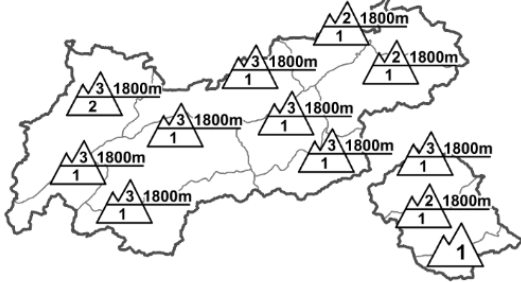
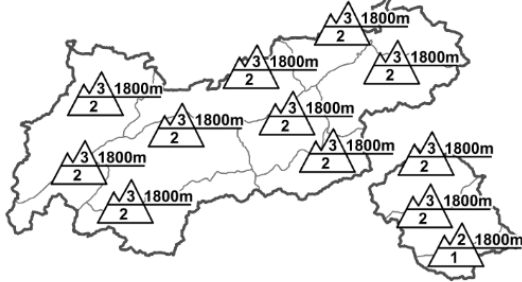











<b>Regional Avalanche Danger Levels</b> in alpine areas from 04.02.2016 07:30 <span style="color: red;">MORNING</span>		<b>Regional Avalanche Danger Levels</b> in alpine areas from 04.02.2016 07:30 <span style="color: red;">AFTERNOON</span>		<b>Tendency tomorrow</b>  constant
				
<b>WHAT? - problem</b>  persistent weak layer	<b>WHERE? - danger spots</b>  2300m  shallow snow	<b>WHAT? - problem</b>  drifting snow	<b>WHERE? - danger spots</b>  1800m  increasingly frequent	<b>General Level</b> Tirol 

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

**Beware fresh snowdrifts! Caution in very steep, shallow snow.**

### AVALANCHE DANGER

Snowfall and winds yesterday afternoon, especially above the treeline, increased avalanche danger levels. The peril there is now assessed as considerable due to freshly formed snowdrift accumulations. Below that altitude, danger levels are low widespread. In western regions where snowfall has been heaviest, danger is moderate due to gliding avalanche hazards. The major peril since yesterday stems from snowdrifts (whose frequency and trigger-sensitivity tend to increase with ascending altitude) found particularly in NE to E to SE aspects, due to current wind directions. Fresh drifts nonetheless require caution in all aspects. The advantage is that with experience the danger zones can be easily recognized. In addition, above 2300 m the old snow can still release in very steep terrain, due to weak ground-level layers. Particularly in transitions from shallow to deep snow in very steep terrain, slab avalanches can trigger, usually by large additional loading, primarily on shady slopes above 2300m, on sunny slopes above 2500m. As of evening, hazards below the treeline will increase to moderate.

### SNOW LAYERING

The thoroughly wet snowpack (in places up to 2400 m) from the weekend has stabilised through the lower temperatures. Widespread a breakable melt-freeze crust prevails (capable of bearing loads at intermediate altitudes). On top of that the new fallen snow has been deposited and whipped up by winds. Most of the snow fell in western regions (20 cm, elsewhere 10 cm). The loose, faceted layers near the ground still show proneness to release, can be most easily triggered where the snow is shallow.

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

Mountain weather today: on the southern flank of the Alps, dry and quite sunny, accompanied by strong northerly foehn wind. In northern regions, poor visibility and skies heavily overcast, intermittent snowfall. Temperature at 2000m, -9 degrees; at 3000m, -16 degrees. Strong NW winds, intensifying this afternoon. As Friday nears, winds will become gusty, reaching gale strengths of more than 100 km/h.

### SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

Main problem: snowdrifts

Patrick Nairz

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe