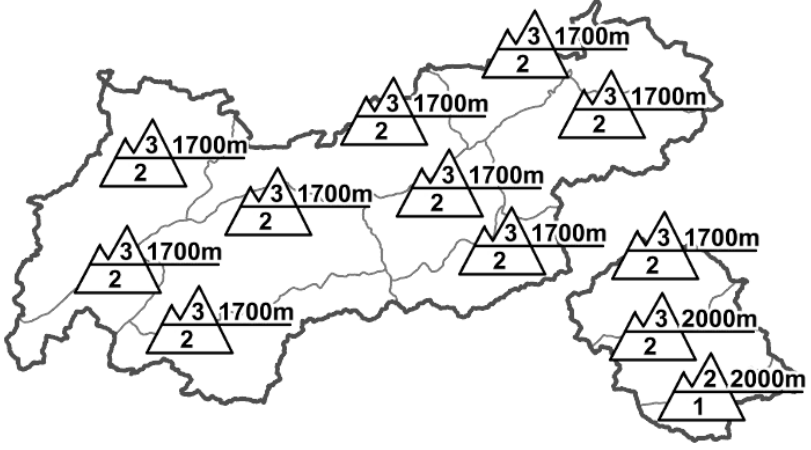












Regional Avalanche Danger Levels in alpine areas from 05.02.2016 07:30 All-Day	WHAT? problem	WHERE? danger spots
	 drifting snow	 1700m  higher with altitude
	 persistent weak layer	 2300m  esp. where snowpack shall
	General Level Tirol 	
	Tendency tomorrow  constant	

DANGER PATTERNS (DP): [dp.6 - loose snow and wind](#) [dp.1 - deep persistent weak layer](#) [dp.9 - graupel blanketed with snow](#)

Delicate touring situation above treeline - fresh drifts!

AVALANCHE DANGER

The combination of low temperatures to start with, then snowfall, then strong high altitude winds, is leading to a treacherous scenario for backcountry skiing and freeriding tours above the treeline. The peril there is considerable; below that altitude, moderate. Caution is urged primarily towards the wide ranging, freshly formed snowdrift accumulations which can easily be triggered by minimum additional loading, i.e. the weight of one skier. The drifted masses tend to become more brittle and trigger-sensitive with ascending altitude. In addition, slab avalanches can still trigger from the ground-level layers, particularly where the snowpack is shallow on shady slopes above 2300m, on sunny slopes above 2500m. And lastly, on steep, grass-covered slopes where snowfall has been heavy, gliding avalanches can be expected below 2400m.

SNOW LAYERING

Over the last 25 hours there has been snowfall over widespread areas in Tirol, mostly 20 cm, locally more; in southern East Tirol maximum 10 cm. Thus, there has been 30-50 cm of snowfall in the last two days in North Tirol and in northern East Tirol at high altitudes. Temperatures were initially very low, rising since yesterday. A weak layer for slab avalanches is the recently fallen layer of fresh fallen snow, sometimes graupel, which is now blanketed by snowdrifts. Releases and stability tests have shown a high proneness to triggering. In addition, the loose, faceted ground-level layers can also trigger, especially where the snowpack is shallow.

ALPINE WEATHER FORECAST (ZAMG-WEATHER SERVICE INNSBRUCK)

Mountain weather today: the peaks will be covered with cloud and fog this morning, snowfall will gradually slacken off from the west. This afternoon, by and large dry in western regions, the clouds will disperse; in eastern regions they will persist for longer. In the Southern Alps, quite sunny. Temperatures will rise during the course of the day: at 2000m, -4 degrees; at 3000m, -7 degrees. Strong to stormy NW winds, tapering off as the day unfolds.

SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

Snowdrift accumulations trigger-sensitive at high altitude

Patrick Nairz

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe