
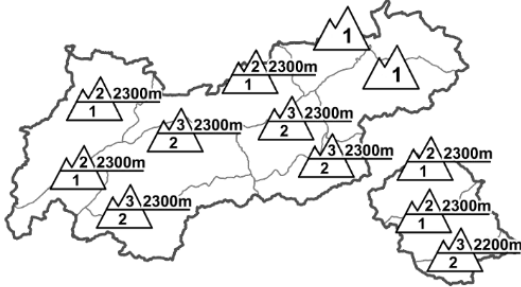
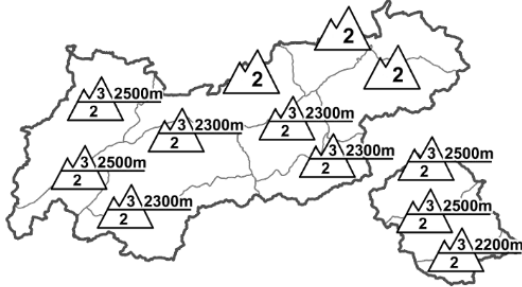











Regional Avalanche Danger Levels in alpine areas from 20.02.2016 07:30 MORNING		Regional Avalanche Danger Levels in alpine areas from 20.02.2016 07:30 AFTERNOON		Tendency tomorrow  constant
				
WHAT? - problem  persistent weak layer	WHERE? - danger spots  2300m  esp. inneralpine	WHAT? - problem  drifting snow	WHERE? - danger spots  2300m  daytime increase	General Level Tirol 

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

Favourable conditions initially, then brief rise in danger (warm front)

AVALANCHE DANGER

Avalanche danger today depends not only on altitude, but also on time of day. To begin with, quite favourable conditions prevail. Avalanche danger above 2300m is moderate far and wide, below that altitude low. The situation remains initially unfavourable in Tux, Stubai, Ötztal and Zillertal Alps as well as in southern East Tirol, where above 2300m considerable danger still prevails. Particularly where the snow is shallow, slab avalanches can be triggered by one single person. Over the course of the day snowfall will set in, rainfall at intermediate and low altitudes. The snowpack will lose some of its firmness, danger levels rise to moderate everywhere. Particularly where rainfall is heavy, wet snowslides can be expected in extremely steep terrain. Also gliding avalanches are possible on steep, grass-covered slopes. Furthermore, at high altitudes the drifted masses near ridgelines, especially on shady slopes, require a high degree of caution.

SNOW LAYERING

Recent weather conditions have improved the conditions of the snowpack. Below 2200m it is now quite stable. Risks are still high in the ground-level weak layers from early winter, most frequently found in inneralpine regions and in southern East Tirol. Slab avalanches can be triggered on steep, shady slopes above 2300m, in southern East Tirol above about 2200m. At high altitudes (above 2700m) the weak layers are also evident on sunny slopes, but triggering an avalanche is likely only with large additional loading. The accumulating moistness/wetness of the snowpack as of evening and during the night below 2000m will cause the snowpack to forfeit its firmness.

ALPINE WEATHER FORECAST (ZAMG-WEATHER SERVICE INNSBRUCK)

This morning, good visibility. Cloud moving in from the west will create diffuse light conditions. This afternoon, gradually fogging in, then moderate snowfall (including in the northern parts of South Tirol and East Tirol). This will take place under the influence of strong-to-stormy NW winds. Tonight below 1300-1800 m the snowfall will turn to rainfall. Temperature at 2000m, -2 degrees; at 3000m, -8 degrees. Moderate westerly winds this morning, becoming far stronger this afternoon.

SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

Daytime warmth cycle will cause loss of snowpack firmness tomorrow.

Patrick Nairz

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe