



Regional Avalanche Danger Levels in alpine areas from 23.02.2016 07:30 All-Day		WHAT? problem	WHERE? danger spots
		<p>drifting snow</p>	<p>2400m</p> <p>increasing with altitude</p>
		<p>persistent weak layer</p>	<p>2400m</p> <p>inneralpine, shady terrain</p>
		<p>General Level Tirol</p>	<p>Tendency tomorrow</p> <p>increasing</p>

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

Beware fresh, small snowdrift accumulations above 2400m

AVALANCHE DANGER

Avalanche danger in Tirol's backcountry touring regions is moderate far and wide; above 2400m, still considerable from place to place. The major peril stems from fresh, small-sized snowdrift accumulations which, due to dropping temperatures, are increasingly brittle, which in turn raises their proneness to triggering. Avalanche prone locations are found primarily in wind-protected, shady terrain and in transitions from deep to shallow snow. Frequency and spread of danger zones increase with ascending altitude. The risk of spontaneous gliding and wet-snow avalanches has diminished significantly with the lower temperatures.

SNOW LAYERING

Last night, along the Main Alpine Ridge more than anywhere else, there was up to 10 cm of new fallen snow registered. Westerly winds at high altitudes were generally strong, thus the fresh fallen snow was whipped up and transported, forming new, small accumulations of drift. Fresh fallen and freshly drifted snow from last weekend have settled and stabilised under the influence of the very mild temperatures yesterday. Particularly in the inneralpine regions, however, the weakened fundament persists. It often consists of faceted, loose layers. Below about 2400m, the snowpack is thoroughly wet as a result of rainfall and high temperatures, this too will stabilise as temperatures drop.

ALPINE WEATHER FORECAST (ZAMG-WEATHER SERVICE INNSBRUCK)

Weather: the Alps lie in the path of a powerful low pressure front whose center is over Scandinavia. From the northwest, reams of moist and cool air will be pushed our way today and over the next few days. Mountain weather today: instable, increasingly wintry, peaks often hidden in cloud, poor visibility, unpleasant winds, temperatures dropping noticeably during the course of the day. This morning, intermittent snowfall, on the Main Ridge longer dry phases. This afternoon, snowfall intensifying from the north, persisting well into the night. By Wednesday morning, 10-20 cm of new fallen snow is expected, most in the western regions of Tirol Temperature at 2000m, -1 to -5 degrees; at 3000m, -6 to -10 degrees. Moderate to brisk westerly winds, intensifying this evening.

SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

Avalanche danger rising slightly due to snowfall and wind

Rudi Mair

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe