



Regional Avalanche Danger Levels in alpine areas from 25.02.2016 07:30 All-Day	WHAT? problem	WHERE? danger spots
	<p>drifting snow</p>	<p>2400m</p> <p>fresh, trigger-sensitive</p>
	<p>persistent weak layer</p>	<p>2400m</p> <p>mostly inneralpine</p>
	<p>General Level Tirol</p> <p>Tendency tomorrow</p> <p>constant</p>	

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

Moderate danger widespread, considerable regionally above 2400m

AVALANCHE DANGER

Avalanche danger in Tirol's backcountry touring regions is moderate widespread. Only above 2400m is danger still considerable from region to region. The main hazards stem from fresh, brittle snowdrift masses which are usually small-sized, but easily triggered. Avalanche prone locations are found in areas adjacent to ridgelines in all aspects above 2400m, in wind-protected, steep, shady terrain and, in general, in transitions from deep to shallow snow. Avalanches which release tend to be small. Only in the inneralpine touring regions where the old snowpack can fracture deeply will larger-sized avalanches be possible. Attention: in the course of the day, some new fallen snow and strong westerly winds will increase frequency and size of the snowdrift accumulations with ascending altitude.

SNOW LAYERING

The snowpack surface is mostly covered by melt-freeze up to about 2400m as a result of the lower temperatures. Atop this crust, which is generally capable of bearing loads, the latest round of new fallen and newly drifted snow has been deposited. Westerly winds yesterday were above transport velocity, fresh, small snowdrift accumulations formed anew. These drifted masses are brittle as a result of the low temperatures, thus easily triggered. Particularly in the inneralpine touring regions, i.e. northern Ötztal and Stubai Alps, Tux Alps, the poor layering is still a risk: the fundament often consists of loose, faceted snow crystals.

ALPINE WEATHER FORECAST (ZAMG-WEATHER SERVICE INNSBRUCK)

Weather: caught in a westerly air current, a front system has the Alps in its grip. To begin with, a warm front will be the predominant factor, this evening an attached cold front will take over, winds will shift to northwesterly. Tomorrow, Friday, a brief intermediate high pressure front, before a powerful low will reach the western Mediterranean on Saturday. Mountain weather today: a touch of winter will return, bringing snowfall to the Lechtal Alps, on the Arlberg as far as the western sector of the Main Ridge around the Wildspitze, lots of cloud. Elsewhere the cloud cover will be higher. This afternoon, snowfall in all of Tirol's mountain ranges, with strong winds at high altitudes transporting the new fallen snow (by tomorrow, 10 cm, in the Lechtal Alps 15 cm). The southern flank of the Alps will get no snowfall. Temperature at 2000m, -4 degrees; at 3000m, -10 degrees. Strong westerly winds in high altitude ridgeline terrain, elsewhere blowing at light to moderate strength.

SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

Moderate danger widespread, regionally still considerable.

Rudi Mair

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe