

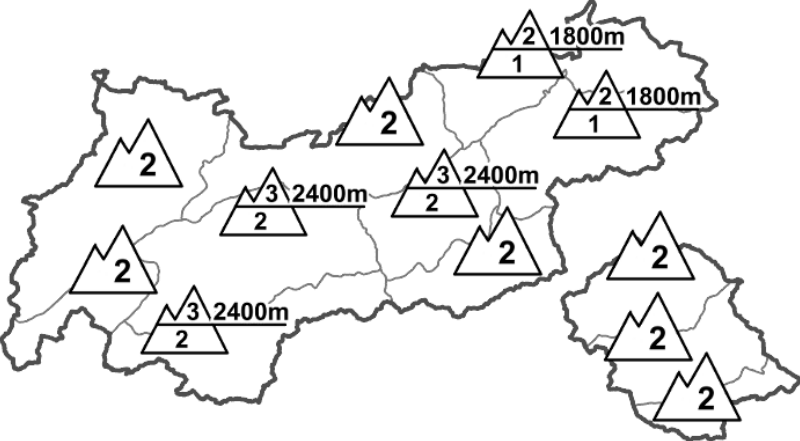








Regional Avalanche Danger Levels	WHAT? problem	WHERE? danger spots
in alpine areas from 27.02.2016 07:30 All-Day	 drifting snow	 2400m fresh, brittle
	 persistent weak layer	 2400m mostly inneralpine
General Level Tirol		Tendency tomorrow
		 increasing

DANGER PATTERNS (DP): [dp.6 - loose snow and wind](#) [dp.1 - deep persistent weak layer](#) [dp.10 - springtime szenario](#)

Foehn winds: fresh snowdrifts accumulating!

AVALANCHE DANGER

Avalanche danger in Tirol's backcountry touring regions remains moderate widespread. In the inneralpine regions and the western sector of the Main Ridge, danger above 2400m is frequently considerable. As southerly winds intensify, new snowdrift accumulations will continue to form. Most are small-sized, but brittle and, thus, easily triggered. Avalanche prone locations are found near ridgelines in all aspects, on shady, steep slopes above 2400m, and in transitions from deep to shallow snow. More than anywhere else in the classic foehn-exposed regions, both frequency and spread of the danger zones will increase as the day unfolds, avalanche danger will increase correspondingly! On steep, sun-drenched slopes below about 2400m, isolated loosely-packed superficial avalanches can trigger spontaneously. In addition, gliding and wet-snow avalanches are possible.

SNOW LAYERING

The old snowpack has a melt-freeze surface up to about 2400m. Atop this crust the latest round of new fallen and newly drifted snow has been deposited. At high altitude the snowpack surface shows heavy wind impact: utterly windblown or hardened surfaces alternate with fluffy powder or snowdrifts. Particularly in the inneralpine regions, weak snowpack layering threatens: the fundament is often composed of very loose, faceted snow crystals. Beware the storm-force southerly winds today, especially in the foehn lanes, where the drifts will become increasingly trigger-sensitive.

ALPINE WEATHER FORECAST (ZAMG-WEATHER SERVICE INNSBRUCK)

Weather: Over the Bay of Biscay a low pressure front has formed. Tirol lies at its forefront in the grip of a southerly-foehn airstream. On Sunday, this low will move towards the Mediterranean, reach the Alps on Monday. Mountain weather today is sharply divided: On the southern flank of the Alps, dense cloud will accumulate in the barrier regions, light snowfall is anticipated. Over the Main Alpine Ridge, a wall of foehn cloud is draped, visibility very limited, flurries possible. Further north, the foehn wind will provide dry weather conditions, high altitude clouds will dampen the sunshine somewhat, but visibility will be adequate. Temperature at 2000m, -3 degrees; at 3000m, -9 degrees. Brisk to strong (gusty) SW winds; storm-force southerly winds in the Tux Alps.

SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

As a result of heavy snowfall and stormy southerly winds, significant increase in avalanche danger in East Tirol and western sector of the Main Ridge.

Rudi Mair

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe