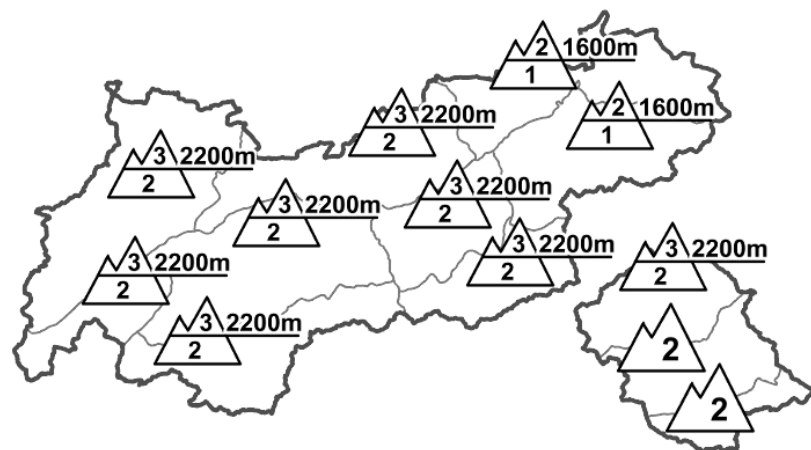












Regional Avalanche Danger Levels in alpine areas from 28.02.2016 07:30 All-Day	WHAT? problem	WHERE? danger spots
	 drifting snow	 2200m  fresh, trigger-sensitive
	 persistent weak layer	 2400m  mostly inneralpine
	General Level Tirol  3	
	Tendency tomorrow  constant	

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

Foehn winds: fresh snowdrifts above 2200m, considerable danger widespread!

AVALANCHE DANGER

Avalanche danger in Tirol's backcountry touring regions has increased somewhat, the danger level is now considerable. Freshly formed, brittle snowdrift accumulations are prone to triggering and can to an increasing degree be loosed by minimum additional loading. Avalanche prone locations are found in ridgeline areas in all aspects; on shady, steep slopes above 2200m; and in drifted gullies and bowls. Frequency and spread of danger zones tend to increase with ascending altitude, as well as during the course of the day. Particularly along the Main Alpine Ridge and in East Tirol, spontaneous superficial loose-snow avalanches and slab avalanches are possible in isolated cases.

SNOW LAYERING

Last night along the Main Alpine Ridge and in northern East Tirol there was a small amount of snowfall. High altitude southerly winds were strong, even stormy in the classic foehn lanes, thus whipping up both new fallen and old snow and transporting it. This gave rise to new, trigger-sensitive snowdrift accumulations. Up to 2400m the new fallen and newly drifted snow was deposited on top of a melt-freeze crust. At higher altitudes the snowpack surface bears heavy marks of recent wind: utterly windblown or hardened surfaces alternate with fluffy powder or brittle snowdrifts. Particularly in the inneralpine regions, weak snowpack layering threatens: the fundament is often composed of very loose, faceted snow crystals.

ALPINE WEATHER FORECAST (ZAMG-WEATHER SERVICE INNSBRUCK)

Weather: the Alps lie in the path of a low over the Gulf of Genoa. Moist air masses are accumulating in South and East Tirol. In North Tirol, the powerful foehn scenario is bringing dry weather. Mountain weather today: on the northern flank of the Alps, good weather prevails apart from the Main Alpine Ridge, it will remain dry and visibility is good below 2500m. Only the strong foehn winds disturb the overall scenario. In southern regions, dense cloud, light to moderate snowfall, 10-20 cm expected (30-50 cm between Ortler and Dolomites). Temperature at 2000m, -1 degree; at 3000m, -7 degrees. Strong to stormy southeasterly winds; in the Tux Alps, storm-force gusts are possible.

SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

As a result of snowfall and strong-to-stormy winds, considerable avalanche danger widespread.

Rudi Mair

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe