
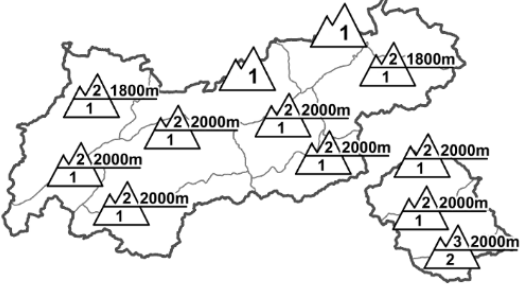
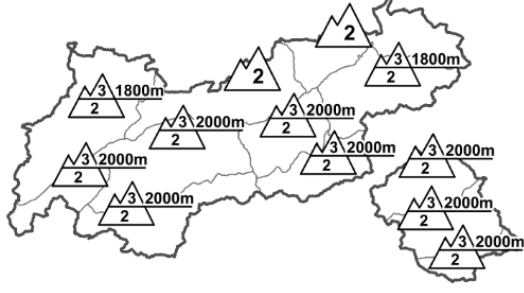











Regional Avalanche Danger Levels in alpine areas from 02.03.2016 07:30 MORNING		Regional Avalanche Danger Levels in alpine areas from 02.03.2016 07:30 AFTERNOON		Tendency tomorrow  increasing
				
WHAT? - problem  drifting snow	WHERE? - danger spots  1800m  increasing with altitude	WHAT? - problem  persistent weak layer	WHERE? - danger spots  2300m  esp. inneralpine	General Level Tirol 

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

Drifts are main hazard. Great powder on wind-protected slopes.

AVALANCHE DANGER

Favourable conditions prevail overall in Tirol, with lots of powder snow deposited mostly atop a hardened old snowpack surface. The major peril lies above the treeline: due to highly varied wind influence, it is essential to keep alert to freshly drifted zones even from one place of a given region to another. Minimum additional loading can release (small) slab avalanches, most often near high altitude ridgelines, primarily in N/E/SE terrain. Very steep shady slopes in the Tux, Stubai and Ötztal Alps above 2300m also threaten, fractures can break in the old snowpack by large additional loading where the snow cover is shallow. Attention: due to forecast snowfall, avalanche danger will increase as of evening. Wherever snowfall is heavy and winds are strong, spontaneous (superficial) slab avalanches can be expected.

SNOW LAYERING

Over the last few days there have been repeated bouts of snowfall in Tirol, most of which fell in southern East Tirol and the southern Ötztal Alps. Wind impact was highly varied, mostly low-to-medium, so that unbonded powder snow is now prevalent on the snowpack surface. Nonetheless: winds were often above transport strength, which led to trigger-sensitive drifts accumulating. The loose powder can also serve as a potential bed surface for avalanches; as can deeply embedded layers of faceted crystals, particularly in inneralpine regions above 2300m on shady slopes. At very high altitudes, the weak layers are sufficiently covered with subsequent layers of snowfall, so that triggerings are unlikely.

ALPINE WEATHER FORECAST (ZAMG-WEATHER SERVICE INNSBRUCK)

Mountain weather today: a few flurries this morning on the northern flank of the Alps, clouds will temporarily disperse, visibility improve, the chances of sunshine are good (sunnier on the southern flank of the Alps). In the course of the afternoon, cloud will move in from the northwest, this evening snowfall will set in (rain at low altitudes). Most fresh fallen snow is expected on the Main Alpine Ridge (40 cm by tomorrow morning). Temperature at 2000m, -4 to 0 degrees; plummeting to -9 degrees this evening; at 3000m, -8 degrees. Brisk W/NW winds in high alpine regions and on the northern rim of the Alps.

SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

Increasing danger due to snowfall, particularly where winds are strong.

Patrick Nairz

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe