
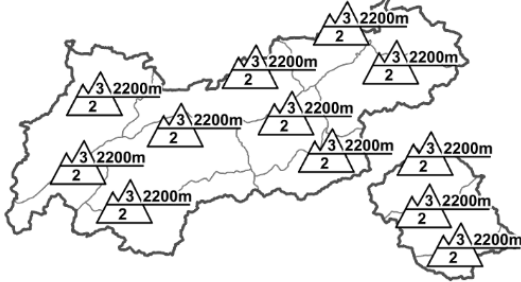
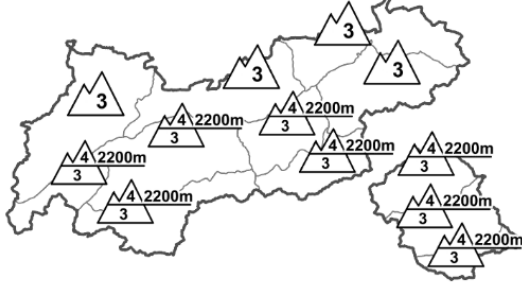









<b>Regional Avalanche Danger Levels</b> in alpine areas from 05.03.2016 07:30 <span style="color: red;">MORNING</span>		<b>Regional Avalanche Danger Levels</b> in alpine areas from 05.03.2016 07:30 <span style="color: red;">AFTERNOON</span>		<b>Tendency tomorrow</b>  constant
				
<b>WHAT? - problem</b>  drifting snow	<b>WHERE? - danger spots</b>  2000m daytime increase	<b>WHAT? - problem</b>  persistent weak layer	<b>WHERE? - danger spots</b>  2400m daytime increase	<b>General Level Tirol</b> 

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

**More critical zones due to wind. Tonight, high danger.**

### AVALANCHE DANGER

As a result of strong winds, avalanche danger levels have risen somewhat in Tirol and are expected to rise further during the course of the day. Above 2200m considerable danger prevails widespread; below that altitude, moderate danger. The main peril stems from freshly formed snowdrift accumulations which become ever more trigger-sensitive with ascending altitude. Avalanche prone locations are found in all aspects, especially frequent in very steep gullies, bowls and ridgeline terrain. Experience helps in recognizing these danger spots. At high altitudes, hardened slab avalanches can be triggered. On shady, extremely steep slopes near ridgelines above 2400m, spontaneous slab avalanches are possible south of the Inn Valley today. When the expected heavy precipitation sets in this evening, danger above 2200 m will rise to high along the Main Alpine Ridge. We expect frequent spontaneously triggered slab avalanches above 2400m (above 2200 m in southern East Tirol) and not only in shady starting zones. Avalanches can trigger naturally and fracture down to layers near ground level, thereby attaining medium size. The risks for backcountry tourers from spontaneous avalanches will diminish tomorrow morning.

### SNOW LAYERING

Above the treeline, the powder snow which is evident in many areas is now being whipped up and transported by strong southerly winds. The weak layer inside these drifts is the powder itself which up to about 2500m was deposited atop a melt-freeze crust. What is even more important are the weakened layers at ground level which with large additional loading can trigger. This is particularly a threat in the Tux, Stubai, Zillertal and Ötztal Alps, as well as in East Tirol (especially in southern East Tirol). On shady slopes, triggerings will be primarily above 2400m; in the other aspects, above about 2600m. Large additional loading is required. This scenario will be launched as of late evening today.

### ALPINE WEATHER FORECAST (ZAMG-WEATHER SERVICE INNSBRUCK)

Mountain weather today: very windy, even stormy. Conditions are best in the eastern mountain ranges of North Tirol, where the foehn will rip a few holes in the cloud cover. In western and southern regions, overcast skies, followed by snowfall which on Saturday night will become intense (30-50 cm on Main Ridge and in central East Tirol; more than 50 cm in Carnic Alps and Lienzer Dolomites). Least snowfall is expected in the Northern Alps (max. 20cm). These conditions will abate by early Sunday morning. Temperature at 2000m, -4 degrees; at 3000m, -8 degrees. Strong southerly winds all day long, reaching storm strength on the Main Ridge and in the classic foehn lanes.

### SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

By the early morning hours on Sunday, the apex of this situation will have passed.

Patrick Nairz

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe