
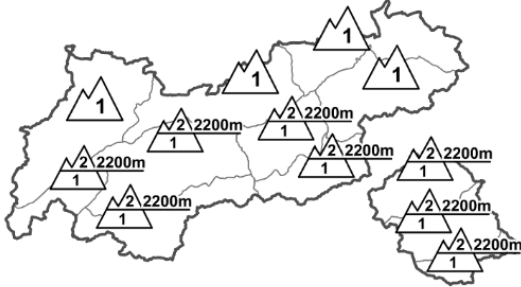
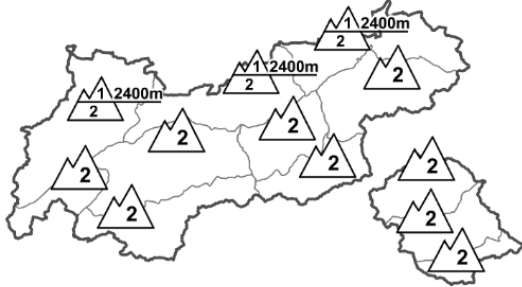











Regional Avalanche Danger Levels in alpine areas from 17.03.2016 07:30 MORNING		Regional Avalanche Danger Levels in alpine areas from 17.03.2016 07:30 AFTERNOON		Tendency tomorrow  constant
				
WHAT? - problem  persistent weak layer	WHERE? - danger spots  2400m  esp. inneralpine	WHAT? - problem  drifting snow	WHERE? - danger spots  2000m  esp. near ridgelines	General Level Tirol 

DANGER PATTERNS (DP): [dp.1 - deep persistent weak layer](#) [dp.7 - snow-poor zones in snow-rich surrounding](#) [dp.8 - surface hoar blanketed with snow](#)

Mostly favourable conditions. Inneralpine danger zones: shady slopes above 2400m

AVALANCHE DANGER

Predominantly favourable conditions prevail. Avalanche danger above 2200m is moderate in some places, otherwise mostly low. Caution is urged primarily in inneralpine regions (Tux, Stubai, Ötztal, Zillertal Alps) and in southern East Tirol above 2400m in very steep, shady terrain, where slab avalanches can trigger in little-trafficked areas, particularly by large additional loading. Due to weakened layers near ground level, avalanches could fracture more deeply and thereby grow to larger size. Elsewhere, isolated avalanche prone locations are found wherever small snowdrifts have recently accumulated, i.e. near ridgelines, in shady steep terrain; or else gliding avalanches on steep, grass-covered slopes. Gliding avalanches are often "announced" by glide cracks in the snowpack surface, making it easy to avoid the threatened zones. In the course of the day, intense solar radiation could lead to small moist sluffs and loose-snow avalanches on extremely steep, sunny slopes.

SNOW LAYERING

The snowpack is well structured for the most part. A bed surface for potential avalanches is the weakened deeply embedded layers from early winter (depth hoar, faceted crystals). Stability tests show that it is stabilising increasingly but could still release a slab avalanche. This is particularly the case in the above-cited regions on shady slopes. Above 3000m this is possible also in other aspects, although the snowpack covering is currently too widespread to be easily triggered. On shady slopes, surface hoar has formed, which could serve as a bed surface for the recently formed snowdrifts. On shady slopes there is often still powder snow; on sunny slopes, usually melt-freeze crusts; below about 2000m, sometimes capable of bearing loads, which then turn to corn snow as the day warms up.

ALPINE WEATHER FORECAST (ZAMG-WEATHER SERVICE INNSBRUCK)

Mountain weather today: a brilliant, sunny day in Tirol. In North Tirol skies are mostly cloudless. In southern East Tirol and in South Tirol and directly on the Main Alpine Ridge, a bit of residual cloud will take longer to disperse. Mild temperatures. Tonight, skies will be crystal-clear. Temperatures 9-14 degrees, in Bolzano 16 degrees.

SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

No significant change in avalanche danger levels is anticipated.

Patrick Nairz

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe