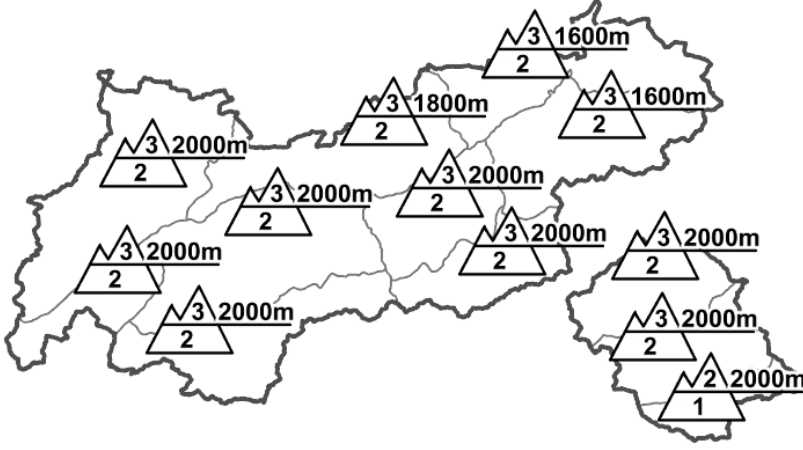

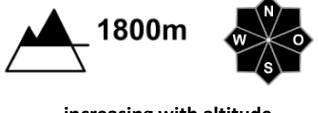








Regional Avalanche Danger Levels in alpine areas from 08.01.2017 07:30 All-Day	WHAT? problem	WHERE? danger spots
	 drifting snow	 1800m increasing with altitude
	 persistent weak layer	 2000m esp. shady slopes
	General Level Tirol  Tendency tomorrow  constant	

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

Ongoing treacherous situation for skiers and freeriders above the treeline

AVALANCHE DANGER

Above the treeline the avalanche danger remains treacherous for skiers and freeriders. Considerable avalanche danger continues to prevail there; below that altitude, danger is moderate. Dangers are found primarily inside the old snowpack and the new snowdrift accumulations. Caution: the drifts are brittle, can be easily triggered even by minimum additional loading. The frequency of danger zones increases with ascending altitude. Caution urged today towards the old snowpack now blanketed with new fallen snow, thus making on-site assessment very difficult - even more so due to poor visibility. Avalanche prone locations are found increasingly in steep terrain adjacent to ridgelines and in steep gullies and bowls. In addition, the unstructured slopes are most threatened where the old snowpack persisted until the recent rounds of precipitation, especially shady slopes above 2000m.

SNOW LAYERING

Once again, snowfall far and wide in Tirol, more in the north, less in the south. The southern Ötztal Alps got the most: up to 30 cm, elsewhere between 10 and 20 cm, while East Tirol got practically nothing. In eastern regions, an additional 20 cm will be added during the course of the day. Winds are blowing above transport velocity in general, accumulating new drifted masses. Fresh drifts are being deposited on top of loosely-packed, cold snow, making them very easy to trigger. Additional weak layers occur in the old snowpack on shady slopes above about 2000m and on west and east facing slopes above about 2400m. These dangers are in the form of faceted-crystal layers and depth hoar, both of which are embedded between thin crusts.

ALPINE WEATHER FORECAST (ZAMG-WEATHER SERVICE INNSBRUCK)

Mountain weather today: heavy snowfall everywhere in the mountains. The new fallen and newly drifted snow will add up to striking amounts, most in eastern regions. Skies will be bluer in inneralpine and southern regions. This afternoon, improving conditions, some sunshine in the Dolomites, where there will be next to no snowfall. Temperature at 2000m, -9 degrees; at 3000m, -15 degrees. Strong northerly winds at high altitudes.

SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

New snowdrifts accumulating during course of day

Patrick Nairz

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe