



Regional Avalanche Danger Levels in alpine areas from 12.01.2017 07:30 All-Day	WHAT? problem	WHERE? danger spots
	 drifting snow	 2000m above treeline
	 old snow	 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](#)

Considerable avalanche danger widespread above treeline

AVALANCHE DANGER

The avalanche danger in the backcountry touring regions of North Tirol remains considerable widespread above approximately 2000m. Most of all, the snowdrift accumulations which formed over the last week are brittle and thus, relatively easy to trigger. Frequently, the weight of one sole skier is sufficient to release a slab avalanche. Avalanche prone locations are found in areas adjacent to ridgelines, drifted gullies and bowls, and on steep, shady slopes above 2000m. Frequency and spread of the danger zones tend to increase with ascending altitude.

SNOW LAYERING

Over the last 24 hours there has been 5-10 cm of fresh fallen snow registered in North Tirol, in the Lower Inn Valley and along the East Tirolean Tauern Ridge as much as 15-20 cm. High altitude W/SW winds were stormy, transporting the new fallen snow. Freshly formed and older snowdrift accumulations were frequently deposited on top of loosely-packed fresh fallen snow, thus can be triggered with relative ease. Settling noises (whumpf!) and shooting cracks indicate a high proneness to triggering. In addition, particularly on shady slopes, the poor snowpack structuring in the ground-level layers requires special caution: between hardened crusts are layers of faceted-crystal snow which could serve as bed surfaces for avalanches.

ALPINE WEATHER FORECAST (ZAMG-WEATHER SERVICE INNSBRUCK)

Weather: a number of weather fronts are buried in a fast-moving westerly air current. A warm front passed through Tirol on Wednesday night. By Thursday evening, a small, southerly foehn front will arrive. On Thursday night, a cold front will follow in its wake. Mountain weather today: stormy conditions are in the offing, visibility often reduced (especially in the Northern Alps) by residual cloud from which intermittent snowfall can be expected. On the Main Alpine Ridge and in the ranges encircling the Inn Valley, conditions will quiet down in the course of the day, sunny phases are likely, along with milder temperatures at all altitudes. Most sunshine is anticipated between Ortler and the Dolomites. Temperature at 2000m, -3 degrees; at 3000m, -9 degrees. Stormy W/SW winds at high altitude.

SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

New fallen snow plus winds: considerable avalanche danger persists.

Rudi Mair

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe