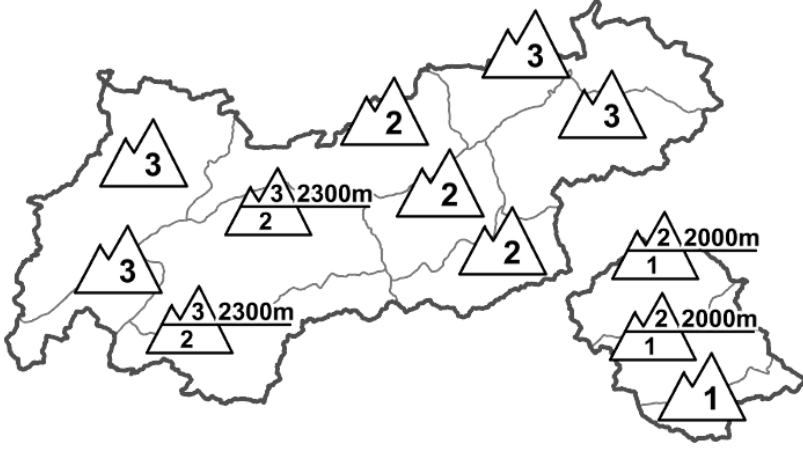

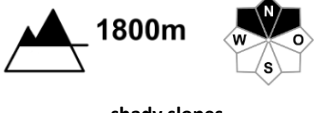

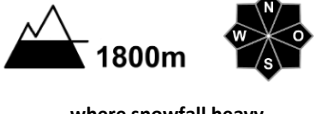






Regional Avalanche Danger Levels in alpine areas from 01.02.2017 07:30 All-Day	WHAT? problem	WHERE? danger spots
	 drifting snow	 1800m shady slopes
	 wet snow	 1800m where snowfall heavy
	General Level Tirol 	Tendency tomorrow  constant

DANGER PATTERNS (DP): [dp.5 - snowfall after a long period of cold](#) [dp.3 - rain](#) [dp.1 - deep persistent weak layer](#)

Considerable danger in western and eastern regions, elsewhere mostly moderate danger

AVALANCHE DANGER

Snowfall, rainfall, wind have increased avalanche danger levels since yesterday. Least favourable are the conditions in the Silvretta, where there was 50 cm of new fallen snow registered: critical level 3 prevails. As temperatures rise today, isolated naturally triggered avalanches can be expected (medium-sized) on very steep, shady slopes above the treeline. Elsewhere the danger in the furthest western and eastern regions is predominantly considerable; in the remaining parts of Tirol, moderate; in southern East Tirol, low. The major peril stems from two problems: on the one hand the rain made the snowpack thoroughly wet. In extremely steep terrain, the weight of one skier can be sufficient impulse to trigger loose-snow avalanches. The wetness also increases the likelihood of gliding avalanches on steep, grass-covered slopes. On the other hand, above the rainfall level new snowdrift accumulations were created, highly prone to triggering on shady slopes. For that reason, snowdrift accumulations should be studiously avoided, that is, circumvented. Caution also on ridgeline slopes at high altitude. The old snow problem needs to be kept in mind, particularly on shady slopes above 2200m.

SNOW LAYERING

Over the last 24 hours it has rained up to 1500m, sometimes up to 2000, above that altitude the precipitation was snowfall. Most of the snow fell in the Silvretta (50 cm). In the Arlberg, Ausserfern, eastern Northern Alps and parts of the Kitzbühel Alps there was 20-40 cm; elsewhere generally about 10 cm; in East Tirol, just a small amount. Rain made the snowpack thoroughly wet at low and intermediate altitudes, thus deteriorating its firmness. Fresh drifts bond very poorly with such a snowpack surface, which means the snow cover can easily be triggered. The problem is exacerbated by the fact that released snowdrifts can take the snowpack down to the weakened ground-level layers with it, thus, avalanches can grow to dangerously large size.

ALPINE WEATHER FORECAST (ZAMG-WEATHER SERVICE INNSBRUCK)

Mountain weather today: highly variable conditions today. High-foglike cloud at intermediate altitude will persist, let loose some snow showers, but not amount to much new fallen snow on the ground. Some sunshine possible in the summit regions along the Main Alpine Ridge. Temperature at 2000m: -3 to +1 degree; at 3000m: -7 degrees. Brisk to strong westerly winds, stormy gusts.

SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

The situation is not expected to change significantly.

Patrick Nairz

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe