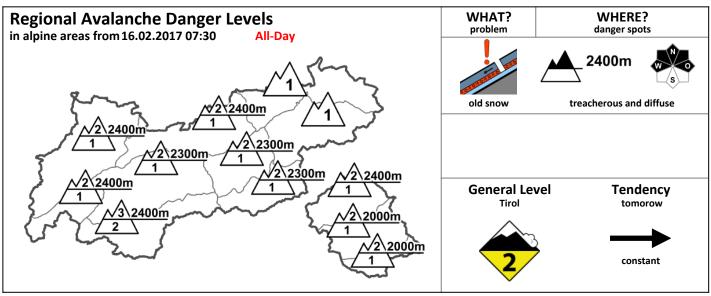


# **Avalanche Bulletin** of the Avalanche Warning Service Tyrol Thursday, 16.02.2017, at 07:30 Uhr





#### DANGER PATTERNS (DP): dp.1 - deep persistent weak layer

# Beware old-snow problem above 2400m. Otherwise conditions are quite good.

## AVALANCHE DANGER

Avalanche danger in Tirol varies greatly, conditions are least favourable in the southern Ötztal Alps, where the danger above 2400m continues to be considerable. Below that altitude danger is initially moderate, then drops to low. In the remaining regions of Tirol, avalanche danger above 2400m is moderate, below that altitude, low. Caution is urged towards the barely visible but widespread old-snow problem. Avalanche prone locations are found on shady, very steep slopes beginning at 2000m in East Tirol, elsewhere above 2400m (lower in foehn lanes). Caution also urged on west and east facing slopes above 2400m where the snow is shallow: it can be triggered, primarily by large additional loading. This applies particularly to seldom-skied terrain. In isolated cases, even remote triggerings are possible from flat terrain, especially in the southern Ötztal Alps. As the day unfolds the snowpack will possibly forfeit much of its firmness, which means that loose-snow avalanches could release from rocky, sunny terrain even at intermediate altitudes. Slab avalanches are unlikely on sunny slopes, but around 2400m are nonetheless possible if the snowpack is thoroughly wet.

## SNOW LAYERING

Below average snow depths for this juncture of the season. Once again a melt-freeze crust capable of bearing loads ahs formed on very steep, sunny south-facing slopes below 2300m, which will soften during the day. What is most decisive for snowpack quality are the weak layers embedded deep inside it consisting of faceted-crystal snow. Analysis shows the situation is gradually improving, but fractures are still possible above 2400m

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

Once again, splendid weather, lots of sunshine, slightly lower temperatures. Temperature at 2000m: +1 degree; at 3000m: -5 degrees. Light southerly winds, later shifting to westerly.

## SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

Avalanche danger will increase slightly with the arrival of fresh fallen snow. Snowdrifts.

#### **Patrick Nairz**

#### Translated by Jeffrey McCabe