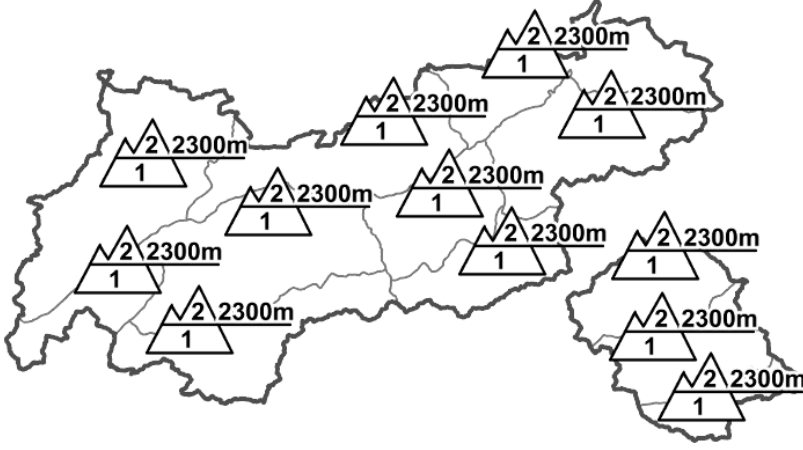



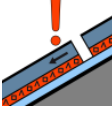








Regional Avalanche Danger Levels in alpine areas from 27.02.2017 07:30 All-Day		WHAT? problem	WHERE? danger spots
		 drifting snow	 2300m  increasing with altitude
		 old snow	 2500m  also southern slopes
		General Level Tirol 	Tendency tomorrow  increasing

DANGER PATTERNS (DP): [dp.6 - loose snow and wind](#) [dp.4 - cold following warm / warm following cold](#) [dp.1 - deep persistent weak layer](#)

Recent snowdrifts are the main danger at high altitudes

AVALANCHE DANGER

Generally moderate danger prevails above 2300m in Tirol, below that altitude danger is low. The main problem is the snowdrift where it can trigger primarily above 2500m. The drifts are found on shady slopes as well as on very steep ridgeline slopes; also on sunny slopes between 2500 and 2800 m they can trigger. Beneath the recent drifts a layer of faceted-crystal snow formed this week, it can often be triggered even by minimum additional loading on very steep slopes. Slab avalanches can also fracture down to more deeply embedded layers inside the snowpack, primarily in extremely steep terrain where the snow is shallow. Large additional loading is necessary. This applies to altitudes above 2500 m. During the day today, avalanche danger will rise slightly in extremely steep, sunny terrain. Skiers and freeriders can unleash small, moist, loose-snow avalanches.

SNOW LAYERING

The formation of faceted-crystal layers beneath the snowdrifts of last week is worthy of attention. This is the danger pattern known as cold-atop-warm and was the cause of several avalanches over the weekend at 2500-2800m. The situation has improved somewhat due to diffuse radiation. More deeply embedded in the snowpack there are still weak layers lurking. Stability tests show that these layers are no longer as easy to fracture, and the fracture propagation danger has diminished.

ALPINE WEATHER FORECAST (ZAMG-WEATHER SERVICE INNSBRUCK)

Mountain weather: north and south of the Main Alpine Ridge sunny weather, the clouds rapidly dispersing. Mild (zero-degree level at 2400m). On the northern flank of the Alps foehn winds are arising, stronger this afternoon. At 2000m: +2 degrees; at 3000m: -3 degrees. The S/SW winds will increase in strength throughout the day.

SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

Avalanche danger will increase as a result of storm winds and snowfall

Patrick Nairz

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe