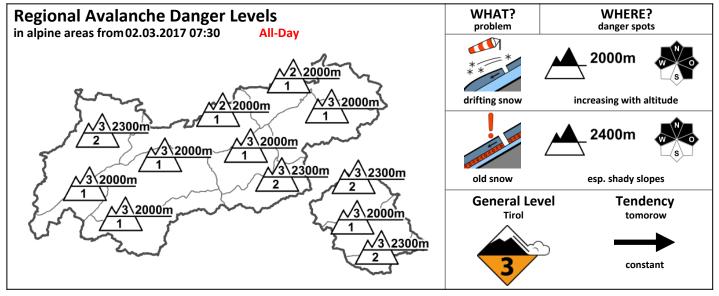


Avalanche Bulletinof the Avalanche Warning Service Tyrol Thursday, 02.03.2017, at 07:30 Uhr





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

Beware wide-ranging, often trigger-sensitive fresh snowdrift accumulations

AVALANCHE DANGER

In most regions of Tirol, considerable danger prevails above 2300m; below 2300m danger is moderate; below the treeline danger is low. Through the recent snowfall accompanied by storm-strength winds, vast snowdrift accumulations formed at high altitudes. These tend to be increasingly brittle with ascending altitude, making them easy for skiers and freeriders to trigger. Fresh drifts are found in all aspects, most of all on NW-N-E facing slopes. Very steep terrain adjacent to ridgelines and in very steep gullies and bowls at high altitude also need to be evaluated critically on-site. Above 2400m, the old-snow problem still lurks and requires caution, particularly where the snow is shallow in shady terrain and on very steep east and west-facing slopes between 2500 and 2800 m. Caution: in the regions where snowfall was heaviest, avalanches can grow to dangerously large size for skiers. In flattish, shady terrain, even remote triggerings are possible.

SNOW LAYERING

Over the last 24 hours there has been some snowfall in the western regions (max. 10 cm, in most places less). The strong-to-stormy winds at high altitude are still the dominating influence, transporting massive amounts of snow. Inside the old snowpack above 2400 m there are weak layers near ground level which in the interim have bonded with the surrounding layers, but still can fracture by large additional loading. In addition, since last week in sunny terrain between 2500 and 2800m, a layer of faceted-crystal snow has formed. This layer can be triggered on west and east-facing slopes. Most easily triggerable, however, is the fresh fallen snow which has now been blanketed over by drifts, primarily at high altitude.

ALPINE WEATHER FORECAST (ZAMG-WEATHER SERVICE INNSBRUCK)

On the northern flank of the Alps, overcast skies this morning, a bit of snowfall. This afternoon it will be sunnier. In inneralpine regions it will be rather sunny, this afternoon liable to get a few showers. On the southern flank of the Alps, sunshine will dominate, visibility will be good. At 2000m: -2 degrees; at 3000m: -9 degrees. Strong to stormy westerly winds at high altitude.

SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

Incrementally, the situation is improving

Patrick Nairz

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe

lawine@tirol.gv.at audiotape: +43 512 508 802255 https://lawine.tirol