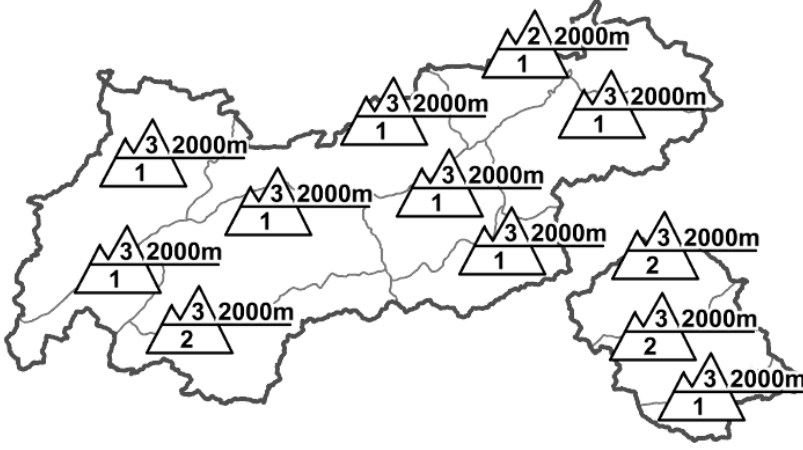










Regional Avalanche Danger Levels in alpine areas from 05.03.2017 07:30 <span style="color: red;">All-Day</span>		WHAT? problem	WHERE? danger spots
		 drifting snow	 2000m increasing with altitude
		 old snow	 2000m esp. shady slopes
		<b>General Level</b> Tirol 	<b>Tendency</b> tomorrow  constant

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

## Treacherous situation in some places above 2000m

### AVALANCHE DANGER

For backcountry skiers and freeriders, the avalanche situation is treacherous in many places above 2000m: considerable avalanche danger. Below that altitude danger is generally low. Conditions along the Main Alpine Ridge, in East Tirol and in the southern Tux Alps are highly treacherous, where storm winds and snow arrived together. The southern Ötztal Alps are the most treacherous of all, where amidst strong winds there was 50 cm of new fallen snow registered. Snowdrifts are found above 2000m, on sunny slopes above 2400m, and are triggerable even by the weight of one single skier. Caution: slab avalanches can be triggered in the snowdrifts, then fracture down to ground-level layers and grow to dangerously large size.

### SNOW LAYERING

Storm wind was the dominant element yesterday, and led to massive snow transport. In addition, there was snowfall in many regions of Tirol, as much as 30-50 cm in the southern Ötztal Alps and the East Tirolean Tauern. Elsewhere along the Main Alpine Ridge there was generally 20-30 cm of fresh fallen snow registered, and in the remaining regions less than 10 cm. Settling noises (whumpf!) are indicators of a highly instable snowpack; on shady slopes as of 2000m, on sunny slopes as of 2400m, the threats begin. Potential weak layers are the now blanketed powder snow on steep, east-facing slopes at 2600-2800m, where faceted-crystal snow has formed an unbonded layer. Ground-level layers can currently be triggered only by large additional loading. Fractures can occur over great distances on shady slopes in particular.

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

Mountain weather on Sunday will be highly variable. The storm winds will slacken off, the air current remain southerly. Snow showers this morning (particularly in the Ötztal Alps), quieting down around midday with a few sunny intervals, before new cloudbanks move in from the west later in the afternoon. At 2000m: -4 degrees; at 3000m: -10 degrees. Moderate SW winds.

### SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

Snowdrifts are still accumulating.

Patrick Nairz

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe