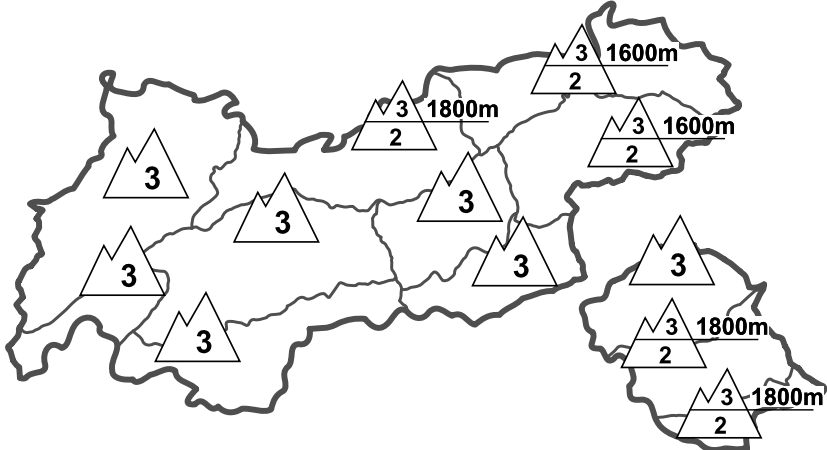

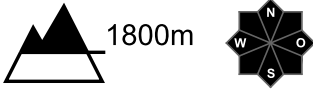








Regional Avalanche Danger Levels in alpine areas from 15.12.2017 07:30 All-Day	WHAT? problem	WHERE? danger spots
	 drifting snow	 1800m fresh, trigger-sensitive
	 old snow	 2000m inneralpine, Main Ridge
	General Level Tirol 	Tendency tomorrow  constant

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

Treacherous situation, considerable danger

AVALANCHE DANGER

The avalanche situation in Tirol is treacherous, the danger level remains considerable, even at the upper reaches of that danger level. The major hazards stem, unchanged, from the ongoingly newly forming snowdrift accumulations. They are brittle and poorly bonded with the snow base beneath them. Thus, avalanches can be triggered from them even with minimum additional loading, i.e. the weight of one sole freerider or skier. If such avalanches break through to the old snowpack, they can grow to dangerously large size. Avalanche prone locations are located on steep slopes in all aspects. The inexperienced are advised to avoid all backcountry skiing and freeriding tours.

SNOW LAYERING

Over the past 24 hours there has been 30 to 50 cm of fresh snow registered in the Silvretta, on the Arlberg and in Ausserfern. In the western sector of the Northern Alps and the northern Ötztal and Stubai Alps there was 20 to 30 cm; in the other regions of North Tirol and along the East Tirolean Tauern Ridge, generally 5 to 10 cm of fresh snow. High altitude W/SW winds were strong to stormy, once again transporting snow masses. These snowdrifts are inadequately bonded with the loosely-packed old snowpack beneath them, thus, prone to triggering. In the inneralpine backcountry touring regions and along the Main Alpine Ridge, more than anywhere else, there are isolated weak layers inside the old snowpack above 2000 m which are potential bed surfaces for avalanches.

ALPINE WEATHER FORECAST (ZAMG-WEATHER SERVICE INNSBRUCK)

Weather: a perturbation with snowfall inside it is moving from North Tirol to the southern flank of the Alps. In its wake, an interim improvement in weather conditions is moving into North Tirol. On the weekend, moist and cold NW weather with increasingly frequent snow showers in a northern barrier cloud effect will arrive, which in turn will generate better conditions on the southern flank of the Alps. Mountain weather today: snowfall and snow showers from the NW will diminish, i.e. move southwards. Around the Silvretta, Ötztal Alps, Arlberg and Ausserfern, cloud is expected to disperse, it will often turn sunny. Also in the Northern Limestone Alps, clouds can be expected to disperse. The expanse from the Zillertal Alps over the Tauern to the Dolomites and Carnic Alps will remain gloomiest, with intermittent show showers extending into the afternoon. Temperature at 2000 m: -5 degrees; at 3000 m: -13 degrees. Strong to storm-strength W/SW winds to start with at high altitude, later slackening off.

SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

Critical situation persists, considerable danger

Rudi Mair

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe