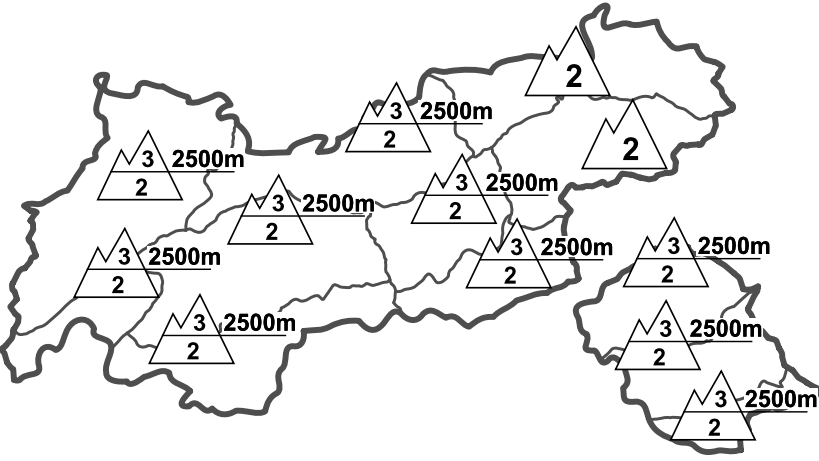

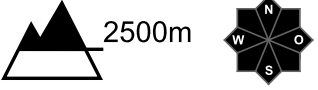
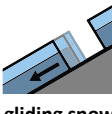
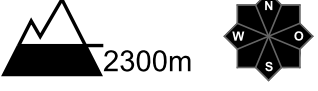






Regional Avalanche Danger Levels in alpine areas from 01.01.2018 07:30 All-Day	WHAT? problem	WHERE? danger spots
	 drifting snow	 2500m increasing with altitude
	 gliding snow	 2300m grass-covered slopes
General Level Tirol 		Tendency tomorrow  constant

DANGER PATTERNS (DP): [dp.6 - loose snow and wind](#) [dp.2 - gliding snow](#) [dp.1 - deep persistent weak layer](#)

Beware fresh high altitude snowdrifts and gliding snow on grassy slopes

AVALANCHE DANGER

Avalanche danger is dependent on altitude. Above 2500 m, considerable danger still prevails; below that altitude danger is moderate widespread. Two problems threaten: snowdrift and gliding snow. The snowdrift problem requires caution at high altitudes, where winds are blowing above transport velocity, ongoingly forming new drifts, increasing in proneness to triggering as well as in frequency with ascending altitude. Avalanche prone locations are found especially near ridgelines, on very steep terrain and on very steep shady slopes. In the regions where snowfall has been heavy, gliding snow masses are still a danger on steep, grass-covered slopes. Gliding avalanches are frequently announced by glide cracks in the snowpack surface. Thus, we advise avoiding all slopes where glide cracks appear. Furthermore, the danger of falling into such glide cracks on falls requires caution.

SNOW LAYERING

Lower temperatures following the phase of warmth have improved the snowpack. However the snow quality has suffered. Below 2200 m, melt-freeze dominates. Above that altitude the wind has distributed snow quite irregularly. Weak layers inside the snowpack are found in the form of blanketed powder at high altitude. Snow profiles also show, as do recent avalanches, that more deeply embedded layers within the snowpack have faceted snow crystals, usually near crusts, which can trigger with large additional loading. This is particularly the case in central East Tirol and southern East Tirol above 2200 m and in high alpine regions, especially at 2800-3200 m on sunny slopes.

ALPINE WEATHER FORECAST (ZAMG-WEATHER SERVICE INNSBRUCK)

Snow showers will persist until midday, then it will rapidly turn sunny from the west. Only in East Tirol can the high altitude cloud cover persist a bit longer, the fog cling to the mountain flanks. Towards evening, the next cloud cover will move in from the west. It will remain windy and temperatures will drop noticeably. Temperature at 2000 m: -6 to -3 degrees; at 3000 m: -11 to -8 degrees. Brisk to strong W/SW winds at high altitude.

SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

Initially, no significant change in avalanche danger levels.

Patrick Nairz

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe