

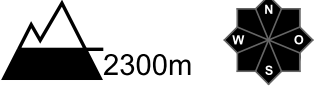








Regional Avalanche Danger Levels in alpine areas from 05.01.2018 07:30 All-Day	WHAT? problem	WHERE? danger spots
	 wet snow	 where rain impact
	 drifting snow	 increasing with altitude
<p>General Level Tirol</p> 	<p>Tendency tomorrow</p>  constant	

DANGER PATTERNS (DP): [dp.2 - gliding snow](#) [dp.3 - rain](#) [dp.6 - loose snow and wind](#)

Treacherous avalanche situation widespread: critical level 3!

AVALANCHE DANGER

Following a day with many avalanches, the danger level has receded somewhat in Tirol. Nonetheless, a critical level 3 still prevails widespread. Naturally triggered avalanches are unlikely today, if at all, then on sun-drenched slopes this afternoon. But the rainfall has raised the likelihood of gliding avalanches on steep, grassy slopes. Moreover, skiers can trigger wet loose-snow avalanches where the rain has impacted steep slopes. Enormous restraint is called for. The freshly formed snowdrifts at high altitudes can be easily triggered, minimum additional loading is sufficient. The inexperienced are strongly advised not to leave secured ski runs. Avalanches which release today in western regions can grow to large size. Where there has been little precipitation in southern East Tirol, the situation from recent snow transport is also treacherous at high altitude.

SNOW LAYERING

Yesterday's warm front brought the predicted precipitation. In western regions, about 60 cm of fresh snow; further east, between 20 and 40 cm. The snowpack was moistened up to 2000-2300 m, thereby weakened. The very active weak layer (surface hoar blanketed, and graupel) is now likely to trigger only above 2300 m. More deeply embedded layers of faceted crystals can be triggered in transition zones from shallow to deep snow.

ALPINE WEATHER FORECAST (ZAMG-WEATHER SERVICE INNSBRUCK)

Mild. This morning on both sides of the Alps, high altitude cloud. In northern regions, also heavy cloud in the mountains, with a bit of snowfall above 1800 m. In inneralpine and southern regions, some sunshine, especially this afternoon. It is expected to remain dry today, clouds will disperse somewhat. Temperature at 2000 m: +2 degrees; at 3000 m, -3 degrees. Strong westerly winds this morning, shifting to SW, then tapering off. Light foehn winds are anticipated.

SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

The situation for skiers and boarders remains treacherous. But avalanche danger is slowly diminishing.

Patrick Nairz

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe