



Regional Avalanche Danger Levels in alpine areas from 13.02.2018 07:30 All-Day		WHAT? problem	WHERE? danger spots
		 drifting snow	1800m on surface hoar
		 gliding snow	2400m sunny slopes
		General Level Tirol 	Tendency tomorrow constant

DANGER PATTERNS (DP): [dp.8 - surface hoar blanketed with snow](#) [dp.6 - loose snow and wind](#) [dp.2 - gliding snow](#)

Highly trigger-sensitive snowdrifts atop blanketed surface hoar!

AVALANCHE DANGER

Avalanche danger in Tirol depends on altitude. Above 1800 m, considerable danger prevails widespread; below 1800 m the danger in North Tirol is low; in East Tirol, moderate. The peril is the direct result of the fresh snow and, above all, wind impact of recent days. In East Tirol, winds were strongest; the fresh snowdrifts which accumulated are highly prone to triggering and can trigger naturally in some places. This applies particularly to W/N/E facing slopes, where drifts were deposited on very trigger-sensitive weak layers of snow. Generally the danger zones are small in size and easily recognized with experience. Caution is urged in general in steep terrain adjacent to ridgelines in all aspects. The situation is more favourable wherever there was no wind in the last few days. Also, much skied slopes are more favourable, since this loading has generally destroyed the weak layers. Caution urged on steep, grassy slopes: the risk of gliding avalanches is ongoing.

SNOW LAYERING

Over the last two days there has been snowfall throughout Tirol, generally 10-20 cm, from place to place as much as 40 cm. Winds above the treeline were above transport velocity (in East Tirol often below the treeline as well) which led to new snowdrifts accumulating. The drifts were deposited on W/N/E facing slopes, frequently atop surface hoar, very loose light snowflakes or faceted crystals. The poor bonding has been amply demonstrated by skiers: the proneness to triggering is high. In isolated cases, even natural triggerings have been observed. The old snowpack is still stable.

ALPINE WEATHER FORECAST (ZAMG-WEATHER SERVICE INNSBRUCK)

In the Lechtal Alps and western sector of the Main Ridge, skies will be cloudless from the start. Between Kitzbühel, Zillertal and Carnic Alps, skies will remain overcast until this afternoon amidst several cloud layers. A few snowflakes are possible here and there, but skies are expected to clear in the afternoon. Icy cold, but that means terrific powder. At 2000 m: -12 degrees; at 3000 m: -18 degrees. Light E/SE winds.

SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

No significant change in avalanche danger levels yet.

Patrick Nairz

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe