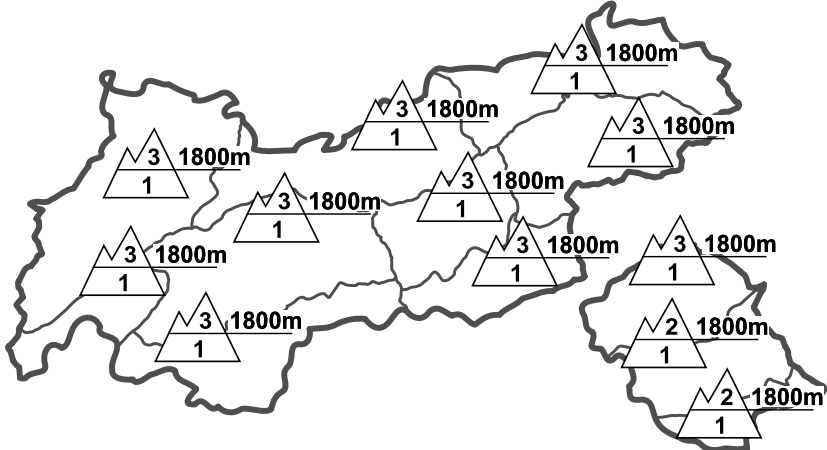

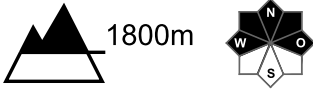
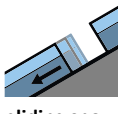
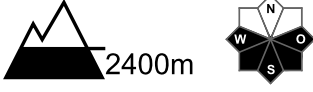






Regional Avalanche Danger Levels in alpine areas from 01.03.2018 07:30 All-Day	WHAT? problem	WHERE? danger spots
	 drifting snow	 1800m esp. in foehn lanes
	 gliding snow	 2400m isolated
	General Level Tirol 	Tendency tomorrow  constant

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

Foehn wind generating fresh, highly trigger sensitive snowdrifts

AVALANCHE DANGER

The intensifying winds at high altitude are increasing avalanche danger. Above 1800 m, danger levels are already considerable in general, below that altitude often low, in the foehn lanes danger is moderate. The main peril stems from freshly generated snowdrift accumulations. Highest caution is urged in steep W/N/E aspects where drifts have been deposited atop loose snow crystals and can now be triggered even by minimum additional loading. Also, naturally triggered avalanches are possible wherever the snow has been transported. In wind-protected and heavily skied terrain, conditions are quite favourable, but caution is still urged towards gliding avalanches on steep, grassy slopes.

SNOW LAYERING

The uppermost, loosely-packed layers of the snowpack are decisive to avalanche danger, since whenever drifts are deposited atop such snow, weak layers are produced. The snowpack surface on shady, until now wind-protected slopes are least favourable of all: faceted crystals and surface hoar are evident, the layer is weak and highly prone to triggering as soon as drifts are deposited on top of it. In sunny terrain the snowpack surface is often covered with melt-freeze crusts. With ascending altitude the number and spread of wind crusts tend to increase. Beneath these are also faceted, weak layers. In those zones, quite deep snowdrift accumulations are necessary to trigger the weak layer, and this is currently not the case.

ALPINE WEATHER FORECAST (ZAMG-WEATHER SERVICE INNSBRUCK)

Compact clouds above summit level are creating diffuse light conditions. In the western sector of the Main Alpine Ridge a small amount of snowfall is possible, elsewhere it will remain dry. Temperatures at high altitude are rising: at 2000 m, -12 to -4 degrees; at 3000 m, -12 to -7 degrees. Moderate to brisk S/SW winds, stronger in the classic foehn lanes.

SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

Snowdrift accumulations are the main danger.

Patrick Nairz

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe