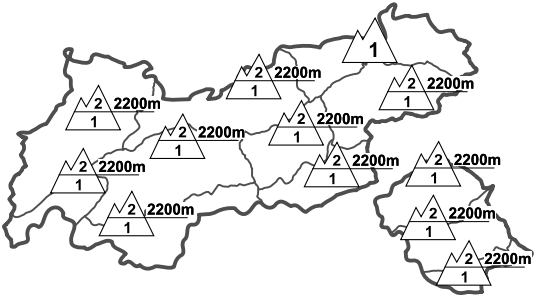
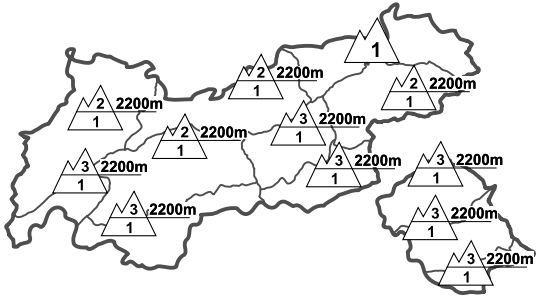




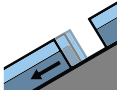






Regional Avalanche Danger Levels in alpine areas from 15.03.2018 07:30		Regional Avalanche Danger Levels in alpine areas from 15.03.2018 07:30		Tendency tomorrow constant
MORNING		AFTERNOON		
				 constant
WHAT? - problem  drifting snow	WHERE? - danger spots  2200m 	WHAT? - problem  gliding snow	WHERE? - danger spots  2400m 	

DANGER PATTERNS (DP): [dp.6 - loose snow and wind](#) [dp.2 - gliding snow](#) [dp.9 - graupel blanketed with snow](#)

Caution: fresh snowdrifts at high altitudes due to foehn. Otherwise favourable conditions.

AVALANCHE DANGER

Avalanche danger above 2200 m is moderate, below 2200 m danger is low. The peril will increase in southern regions above 2200 m as the day unfolds because of strong southerly winds plus precipitation, thus transporting the fresh snow and generating new snowdrift accumulations. The danger lies in those drifts. Size and spread of danger zones will increase during the course of the day, as well as with ascending altitude. Caution urged primarily in very steep W/N/E facing terrain above 2200 m. The snowdrift accumulations can be triggered even by the weight of one sole skier. Otherwise, favourable conditions prevail. At low and intermediate altitudes the main danger stems from gliding avalanches on steep grassy slopes.

SNOW LAYERING

Nighttime skies were star-studded and cool. At low and intermediate altitudes and in general on sunny slopes the snowpack upper layers are wet, thus could consolidate well. A melt-freeze crust is widespread capable of bearing loads. Weak layers inside the snowpack are found in the uppermost layers: graupel, blanketed powder snow, layers of faceted crystals. The faceted crystals formed during the period of extreme cold and are found at high altitudes in W/E aspects, often beneath a thin melt-freeze crust. We calculate that the proneness to triggering begins at about 2200 m, especially on W/N/E facing slopes. At lower altitudes, corn snow will form despite the cloud cover moving in.

ALPINE WEATHER FORECAST (ZAMG-WEATHER SERVICE INNSBRUCK)

Strong southerly winds will accompany all backcountry tours today, particularly in the classic foehn lanes and on the summits. In the Lowlands, some sunshine in the eastern parts, elsewhere the sun will be impeded, pale at best, and cloud cover will soon spread. The Main Alpine Ridge and southern flank of the Alps will be blanketed in barrier cloud, a bit of snowfall is possible this morning, which will then spread further this afternoon. At 2000 m: -3 to 0 degrees; at 3000 m: -8 to -5 degrees. Strong to stormy S/SW winds at high altitude.

SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

To begin with, no significant change. Generally favourable conditions apart from fresh drifts.

Patrick Nairz

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe