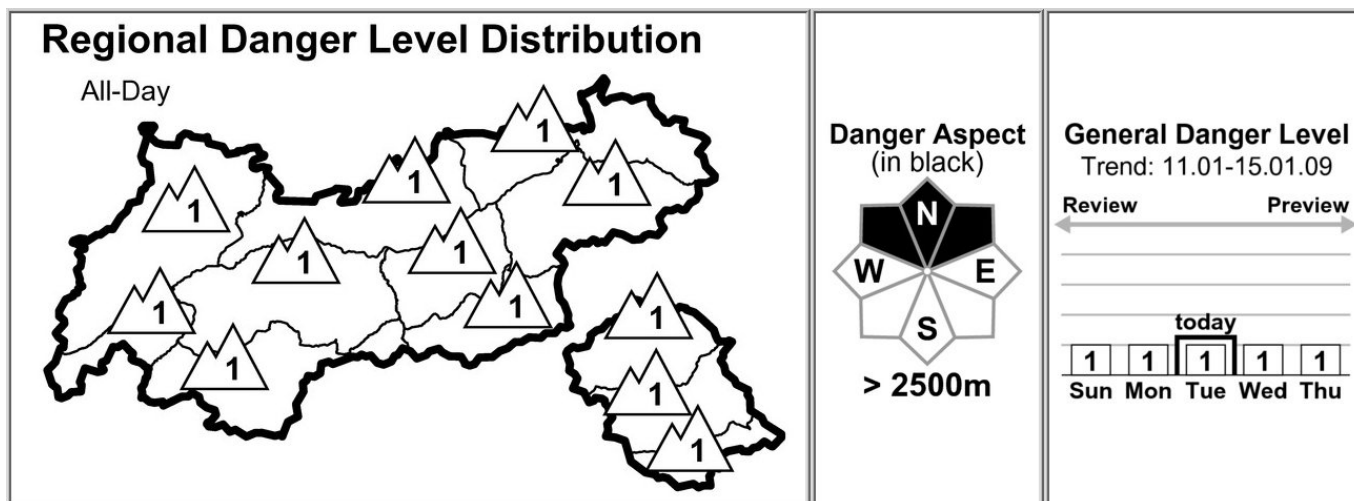


# Avalanche Bulletin

## of the Avalanche Warning Service Tyrol

Tuesday, 13.01.2009, at 07:30



## FAVOURABLE TOURING CONDITIONS CONTINUE

### AVALANCHE DANGER

The avalanche danger throughout Tyrol continues to be low. Avalanche prone locations are now to be found only in isolated cases, primarily above 2500 m, where small sized snowdrift accumulations which formed in the areas exposed to foehn wind influence over the last few days, particularly in areas adjacent to ridge lines on extremely steep, shady slopes, could be unleashed. The snow depths are small, however, so that the hazards of falling currently outweigh those of being buried by snow. Such danger spots are easy to recognize for experienced backcountry skiers and freeriders. Isolated full depth snowslides continue to be possible on steep, grassy slopes in all aspects.

### SNOW LAYERING

The major trait of the snowpack is its lack of tensions. Up to about 2000 m there are melt freeze crusts near the surface which are becoming increasingly thin. Surface hoar or a thin, faceted layer often overlay these melt freeze crusts. The faceting of the snowpack is proceeding apace, which means that in areas with little snow, skiers can break through all the way to the ground. With increasing altitude, wind crusts are more frequent on the surface, which are sometimes brittle, but in exposed areas can often bear loads. A potential bed surface for slab avalanches is evident in high alpine regions on northwest to north to northeast facing slopes in the lowermost layer of the snowpack; however, due to the deep snow masses, there is little likelihood of this being triggered.

### ALPINE WEATHER FORECAST (ZAMG-WEATHER SERVICE INNSBRUCK)

Weather today: high pressure zone weather conditions. Tomorrow a weak disturbance will arrive from the south and the west, clouds and some precipitation are expected. Towards Friday, an intermediate high pressure front will return. As of this weekend, variable weather will arrive in a westerly airstream. Mountain weather today: yet again, marvellous leisure conditions prevail above an extremely flat valley inversion. Sunshine, clear skies and temperatures above zero up to 2000 m. Light to moderate southwesterly winds. Temperature at 2000 m: minus 2 to plus 2 degrees; at 3000 m: minus 9 to minus 5 degrees.

### SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

All in all, quite safe conditions for backcountry tours.

Patrick Nairz

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe