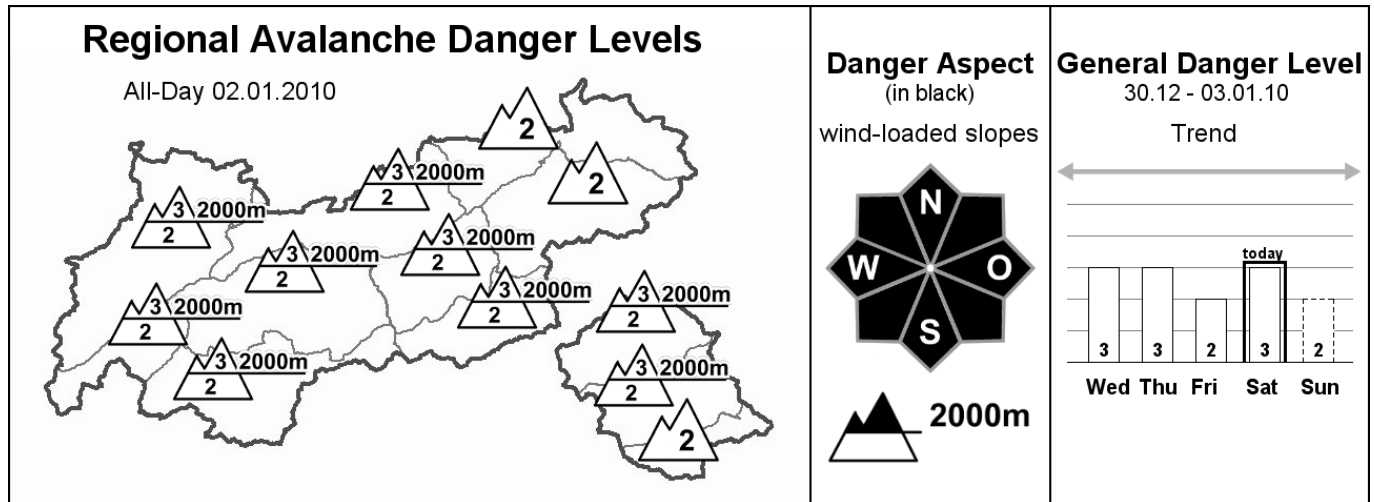


# Avalanche Bulletin

## of the Avalanche Warning Service Tyrol

Saturday, 02.01.2010, at 07:30



## Escalating avalanche danger in high alpine regions amid snowfall and northerly winds

### AVALANCHE DANGER

The avalanche danger in Tyrol's backcountry touring regions has escalated somewhat in high alpine regions, to considerable (Level 3). Avalanche prone locations are to be found on steep and wind loaded slopes in all expositions above approximately 2000 m. Their frequency increases with ascending altitude. Primarily freshly formed snowdrift accumulations can be triggered even through minimum additional loading, including by the weight of a single backcountry skier or snowboarder. Particularly in transition areas from shallow to deep snow, avalanches can fracture in the old snowpack and attain large size. Backcountry skiing and freeriding tours require extensive experience in reading and assessing the avalanche situation.

### SNOW LAYERING

Last night a few centimeters of snow fell in Tyrol, most intensively in the region Arlberg/Ausserfern. High altitude winds shifted to northerly and gained in strength, which caused the new fallen snow in high alpine regions to be immediately transported. The snowpack at low and intermediate altitudes is thoroughly wet due to rain and mild temperatures in recent days. The snowpack will become firmer again through the decreased temperatures. In high alpine regions, fresh and older snowdrift accumulations blanket the old snowpack, in which several weak layers are embedded. Moreover, the bonding of the snowdrift to the old snowpack is poor in many places. Consequently, avalanches can still be triggered even by minimum additional loading.

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

Weather: Tyrol will be brushed by the edge of a disturbance whose influence will be felt most on the northern edge of the Alps and in the Lower Inn Valley, accompanied by a small amount of snowfall. Tomorrow, Sunday, an intermediate high will bring quite sunny and cold conditions. Mountain weather today: wintery in the mountains, temperatures are dropping continually, a bit of intermittent snowfall is possible. Visibility will improve, in the Vintschgau to begin with. Then in the afternoon in the remaining regions of the Southern Alps, bright spells can be expected through the strong northerly foehn winds. Temperature at 2000 m: minus 8 to minus 15 degrees; at 3000 m: minus 16 to minus 23 degrees. Brisk westerly to northwesterly high altitude winds.

### SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

The avalanche danger will gradually subside.

Rudi Mair

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe