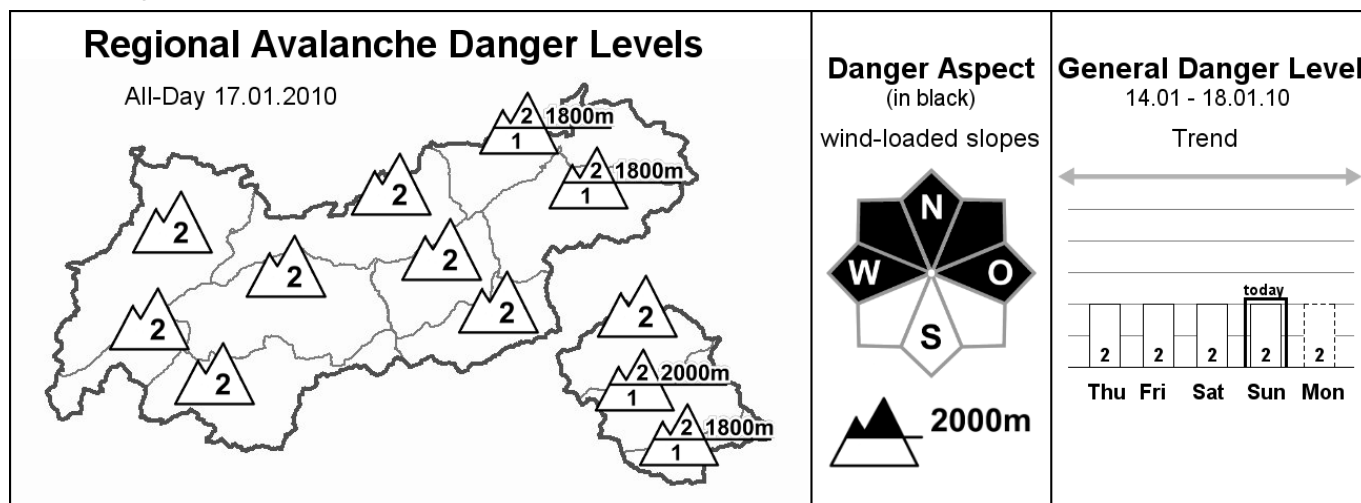


# Avalanche Bulletin

## of the Avalanche Warning Service Tyrol

### Sunday, 17.01.2010, at 07:30



## Slight increase in avalanche danger amidst snowfall and wind

### AVALANCHE DANGER

The avalanche danger in Tyrol's backcountry touring regions is moderate widespread and will increase slightly over the course of the day today. Caution is urged towards snowdrift accumulations in particular, which will increase in number throughout the day. Avalanche prone locations are to be found primarily on wind loaded slopes and in areas adjacent to ridge lines above approximately 2000 m, especially in western to northern to eastern expositions. Transition areas from shallow to deep snow must also be evaluated with extreme care, since this is where the tensions inside the snowpack are greatest. The bonding of fresh snowdrift to the old snowpack is generally inadequate, thus, avalanches are relatively easy to trigger. Above approximately 2000 m, today's new fallen snow can easily raise the danger level to "considerable" over the course of the day.

### SNOW LAYERING

Last night in North Tyrol it began to snow widespread, the snowfall level is above approximately 1200 m. More than 5 to 10 cm of snowfall is not anticipated. Westerly winds are more than strong enough to transport this new fallen snow, meaning that new snowdrift accumulations can be expected. At low and intermediate altitudes the snow depths are below average, the old snowpack has very little tension inside it. In high alpine regions, new fallen snow and snowdrift blanket an extremely irregular snowpack: interspersed between hard crusts are often loosely packed, unbonded layers which are potential bed surfaces for avalanches. In addition, the highly varied snow depths are problematic: windblown slopes or spots with little snow often lie immediately adjacent to gullies and bowls filled with snowdrift.

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

Weather: a disturbance is traversing the Alps from the west. Its influence will mainly be felt on the northern flank of the Alps. Mountain weather today: on the northern flank of the Alps and on the Main Alpine Ridge, snow showers above 1200 m through the course of the day. In the barrier regions it may amount to a total of 5 to 10 cm of snowfall. On the southern flank of the Alps, the clouds will disperse somewhat. Temperature at 2000 m: minus 2 to minus 6 degrees; at 3000 m: minus 9 to minus 12 degrees. Strong to stormy westerly winds at high altitudes.

### SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

As the weather improves, the avalanche danger will gradually recede.

Rudi Mair

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe