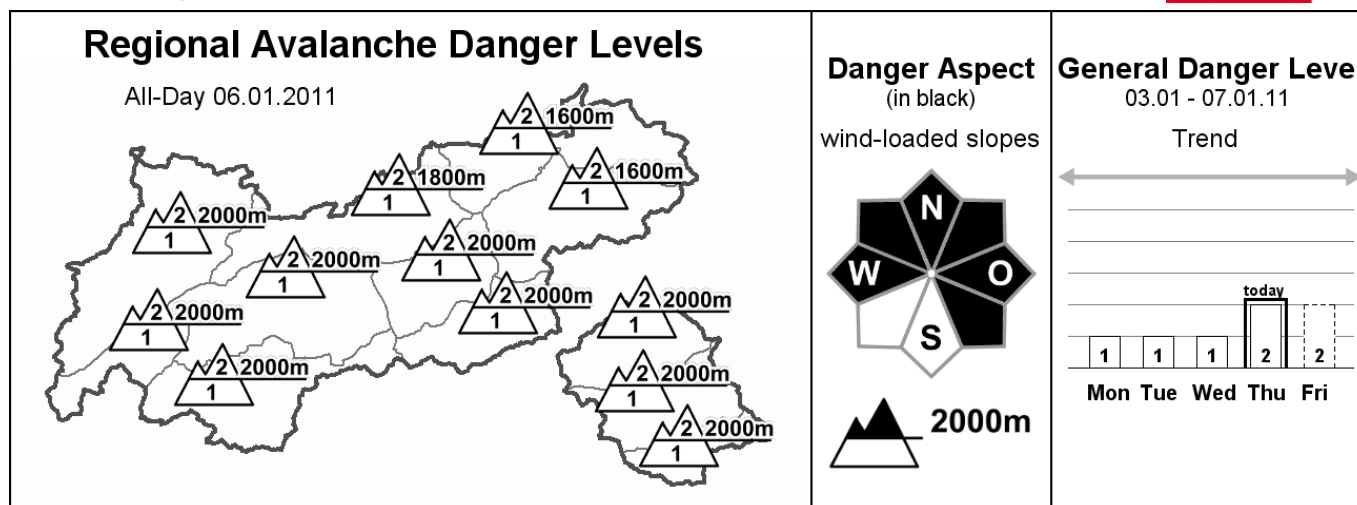


# Avalanche Bulletin

## of the Avalanche Warning Service Tyrol

Thursday, 06.01.2011, at 07:30



### Caution towards fresh snowdrift accumulations

#### AVALANCHE DANGER

The backcountry touring conditions in Tyrol are no longer as favourable as in recent days, the danger level for avalanches is escalating in general to moderate. The major peril stems from the snowdrift accumulations which are being formed ongoingly. Avalanche prone locations are to be found on wind loaded slopes and in areas adjacent to ridge lines above approximately 2000 m, particularly on west to north to south facing slopes. Since the frequency and spread of such danger zones are expected to increase over the course of the day, the danger level will also rise slightly, meaning that avalanches can be triggered even by minimum additional loading in isolated cases. Thus, a prudent route selection becomes more and more important.

#### SNOW LAYERING

Over the long-running period of low temperatures, the snowpack has become increasingly faceted and loose. This has decreased its internal stress incrementally, making it far less prone to triggering. However, surface hoar has often formed atop the snowpack's uppermost surface. And now the southwesterly wind has given rise to many new, relatively small sized snowdrift accumulations (and will continue to do so again today) which are then deposited atop the loosely packed surface of the old snowpack. The bonding with this old snow is poor, which will make it increasingly prone to triggering over the course of the day.

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

Weather: a westerly to southwesterly current will bring mild, moderately moist air masses to Tyrol today and over the coming days. In North Tyrol, foehn wind conditions will prevail until the beginning of next week, and thereafter temperatures are expected to remain mild. Mountain weather today: high altitude clouds will generally impede sunshine and make for diffuse visibility, although sunny intervals are anticipated. The summits are generally free of fog and cloud. It will be very windy, particularly in the areas exposed to foehn winds. Freezing level will be 2000 m. During the night tonight, light snow flurries are expected in the Northern Alps. Temperature at 2000 m: zero degrees; at 3000 m: minus 5 degrees. Omnipresent strong velocity southerly to southwesterly winds, in the Tuxer Alps they will even reach storm strength.

#### SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

Once again today, a slight rise in avalanche danger.

Rudi Mair

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe