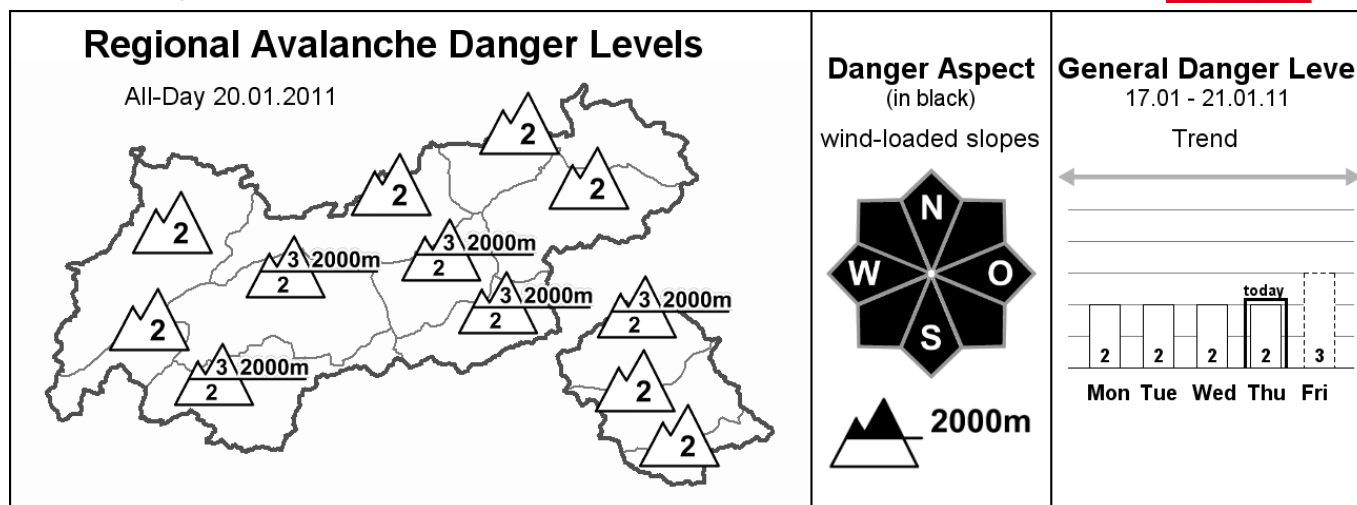


# Avalanche Bulletin

## of the Avalanche Warning Service Tyrol

Thursday, 20.01.2011, at 07:30



### Rising avalanche danger due to fresh snowdrift

#### AVALANCHE DANGER

The avalanche danger level in Tyrol is still predominantly moderate, but in high alpine regions it is already considerable from region to region. Caution is especially necessary towards the fresh, brittle snowdrift accumulations; they are relatively small, but in isolated cases can be triggered as avalanches even by minimum additional loading, i.e. by the weight of a single backcountry skier. The danger zones are to be found primarily on wind loaded slopes and in areas adjacent to ridge lines in all expositions above approximately 2000 m. The transition areas from deep to shallow snow still require a high degree of caution. And since these avalanche prone locations are now often blanketed over by new fallen snow, they are exceedingly difficult to recognize in open terrain.

#### SNOW LAYERING

Over the last 24 hours there has been snowfall throughout Tyrol. Along the Northern Alps and on the Main Alpine Ridge there was as much as 20 cm of fresh fallen snow; on the East Tyrolean Tauern Ridge even 30 cm. In the remaining parts of North Tyrol, it snowed 10 to 15 cm, in southern East Tyrol 15 to 20 cm. The moderate to brisk winds, initially from westerly directions, then shifting to northwesterly, gave rise to fresh, relatively small snowdrift accumulations which are brittle, due to the drastically lower temperatures, making them quite prone to triggering.

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

Weather: Tyrol is in a sleeve shaped low which extends from Finland over Poland into Switzerland, caught in icy arctic air. On the weekend, the air pressure will rise somewhat, and become drier. Mountain weather today: the peaks are partly covered in cloud and fog, only minor snow showers are anticipated. By tomorrow morning, about 5 - 10 cm of new fallen snow is expected. It has also turned bitter cold. In the Southern Alps it will be dry, but high altitude cloudbanks will make visibility hazy. Temperature at 2000 m: minus 13 degrees; at 3000 m: minus 20 degrees. Moderate to intermittently brisk northerly to northeasterly winds at high altitudes.

#### SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

Continually rising avalanche danger due to strong northeasterly winds

Rudi Mair

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe