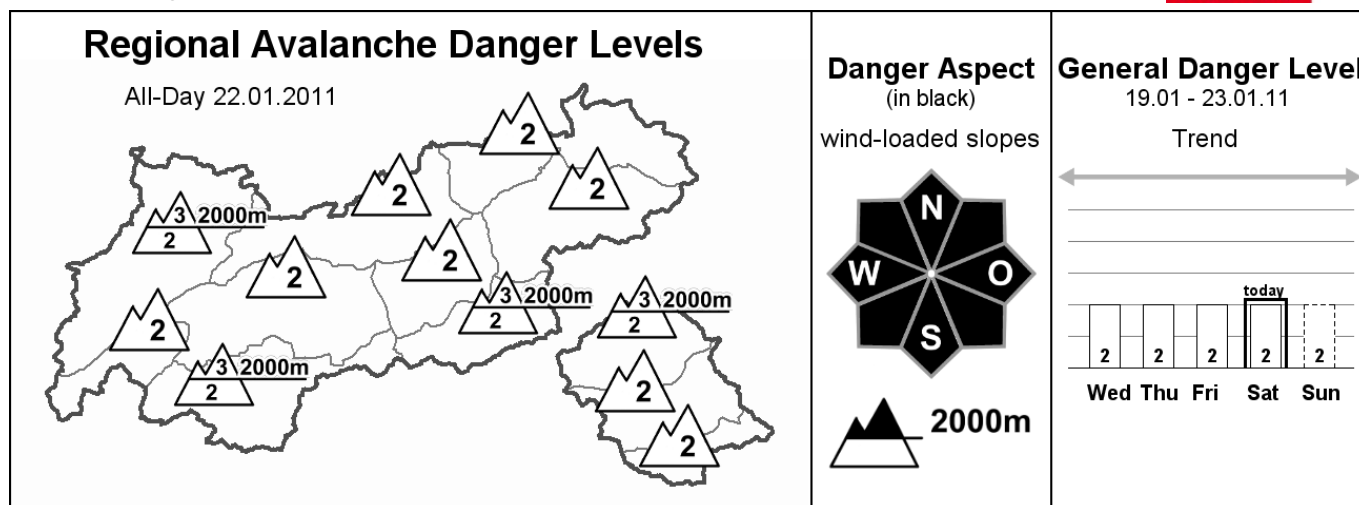


# Avalanche Bulletin

## of the Avalanche Warning Service Tyrol

### Saturday, 22.01.2011, at 07:30



## Moderate avalanche danger by and large - Beware fresh snowdrift accumulations

### AVALANCHE DANGER

The avalanche danger level in Tyrol's backcountry touring regions is predominantly moderate. The major peril stems from freshly formed, relatively small sized snowdrift accumulations. They are brittle and in general poorly bonded with the old snowpack, making them prone to triggering. Avalanche prone locations are to be found mostly on wind loaded slopes and in areas near ridge lines above approximately 2000 m. Caution: isolated snowdrift masses can be triggered even by minimum additional loading. Since many hazardous zones have now been covered over by new fallen snow, an accurate evaluation of the avalanche dangers is that much more difficult.

### SNOW LAYERING

Over the last 24 hours there have been only light snow flurries in Tyrol. At low and intermediate altitudes, the new fallen snow and snowdrift of recent days now blanket a snowpack surface which is generally covered by a melt freeze crust. In high alpine regions, the old snowpack surface is compacted by wind in many places, in others it is loosely packed. Freshly formed and older snowdrift accumulations are usually brittle, due to the persistently low temperatures, making them highly trigger sensitive.

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

Weather: the Alps are wedged between a high over the British Isles and a low over the Mediterranean, caught in a cold northeasterly air current, in which the intermediate high from the north has gained dominance. The air masses are becoming drier from high altitude. Mountain weather today: above approximately 2500 m, sunshine is anticipated today. Below that altitude in North Tyrol, clouds to begin with, together with high fog, but most of it will disperse before noon, making way for the sun. In the Northern and Kitzbühel Alps, the low altitude clouds may well spread out again this afternoon. On the southern flank of the Alps, cloudless skies, but accompanied by icy cold northerly winds. Temperature at 2000 m: minus 13 degrees; at 3000 m: minus 20 degrees. Moderate northeasterly winds; in the Arlberg region, winds will be strong.

### SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

Ongoing moderate avalanche danger in general

Rudi Mair

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe