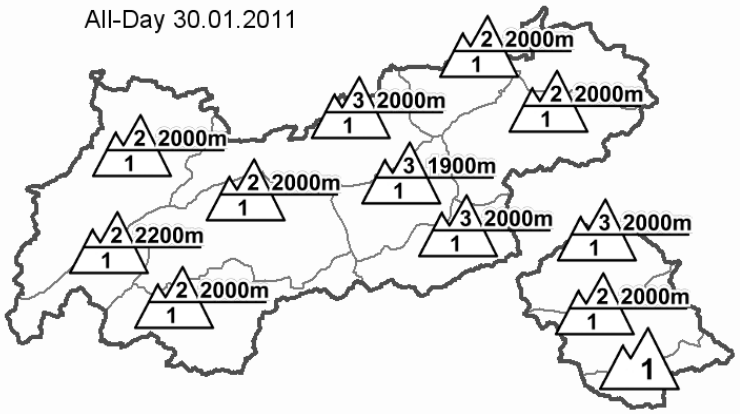
# Avalanche Bulletin

## of the Avalanche Warning Service Tyrol

## Sunday, 30.01.2011, at 07:30

### Regional Avalanche Danger Levels

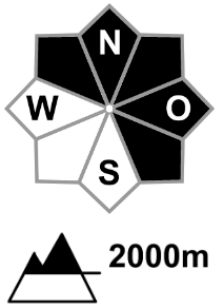
All-Day 30.01.2011




### Danger Aspect

(in black)

ridge lines



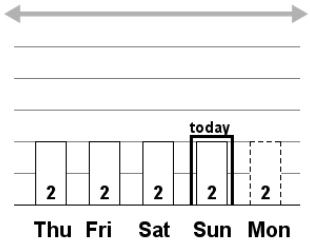




### General Danger Level

27.01 - 31.01.11

Trend




## Caution ongoingly necessary near ridge lines, especially in shady terrain

### AVALANCHE DANGER

The avalanche danger level is considerable in the regions heavily influenced by wind, namely, the Zillertal Alps, East Tyrolean Tauern, major foothills of the Tux Alps, eastern foothils of the Stubai and Ötztal Alps and the central part of the western Northern Alps above approximately 2000 m. Below that altitude, low danger prevails. Over the last few days, fresh snowdrift accumulations have formed, most frequently in east-west running, shady areas adjacent to ridge lines, also in gullies and bowls. In steep terrain, they can be triggered as avalanches even by minimum additional loading, which happened yesterday and caught backcountry skiers in their wake, fortunately without disaster. Experience in assessing avalanche hazards makes it easy to recognize these perils, which then should be studiously avoided. Wherever there has been little wind, which is the case for most regions of Tyrol, far more benevolent conditions reign. The danger there is contingent on altitude: above approximately 2000 m, the danger is moderate; below that altitude it is low. Avalanche prone locations are limited to very steep areas near ridge lines, where in isolated cases the recently formed snowdrift accumulations can be triggered in very steep terrain. This is especially the case for northwest to east to southeast facing slopes. In very isolated cases, danger zones are also to be found in transition areas from shallow to deep snow in extremely steep, shady terrain or on broad ridges with shallow snow in the remaining expositions, most typically between about 2300 and 2800 m. In those areas, relatively small sized avalanches can be released from a weak layer in the snowpack, quite near the ground, through large additional loading.

### SNOW LAYERING

The snow layering is currently the result of heavy wind influence, which can vary enormously from place to place. In the typical foehn channels, a good amount of snow has been transported since yesterday. The bonding between the snowdrift and the snowpack lying beneath it, usually consisting of cold, loosely packed snow, is in general inadequate. Since Thursday, the clear, cold nights had formed a thin layer of surface hoar atop of it on shady slopes. In wind protected areas, in the other hand, the snow layering is usually quite favourable. Only in areas with shallow snow is the old snowpack loosely layered at high altitudes, providing small bed surfaces for the hard compacted layers on top of it. At low and intermediate altitudes, the old snowpack is generally compacted and capable of bearing loads; on top of it there is generally loosely packed powder.

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

Weather in general: a high, extending from the British Isles across central Europe as far as the Black Sea, reigns supreme. Mountain weather today: wonderful weather conditions for backcountry skiing and freeriding tours, full of sunshine, cloudless skies, only a few high altitude clouds which will disturb but minimally, mainly in the Ortler range or the Carnic Alps. Temperature at 2000 m: minus 8 to minus 2 degrees; at 3000 m: minus 10 to minus 7 degrees. Light to moderate southeasterly winds.

### SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

Avalanche danger will incrementally recede in areas exposed to winds.

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