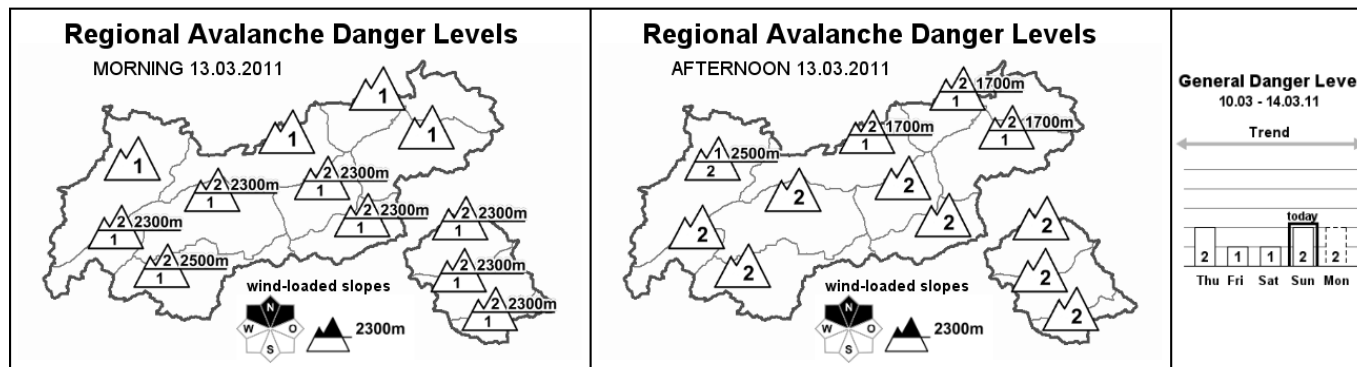


# Avalanche Bulletin

## of the Avalanche Warning Service Tyrol

Sunday, 13.03.2011, at 07:30



**Beware fresh snowdrift in steep, shady terrain. Caution towards daytime warming cycle.**

### AVALANCHE DANGER

In the early morning hours, the danger level is low, in general; above approximately 2300 m in the southern regions it is moderate. Avalanche prone locations for backcountry skiers and freeriders are found in very steep terrain of northern exposition and in areas adjacent to ridge lines: freshly formed, usually small snowdrift accumulations which can be very easily triggered, particularly in the regions along the Main Alpine Ridge near ridgelines, since depth hoar is embedded inside them. As of late morning, the danger level will rise to moderate throughout Tyrol, due to the increasing moistness of the snowpack below about 2500 m. Skiers in outlying terrain can then trigger wet snowslides and wet snow avalanches in very steep terrain. Isolated naturally triggered, at most medium sized wet avalanches are possible as of afternoon on extremely steep east to south to west facing slopes, although primarily in wind protected zones. Depending on the amount of snowfall, the danger level above approximately 2500 m in the regions along the Main Alpine Ridge might reach Level 3 in late afternoon.

### SNOW LAYERING

The snowpack was not able to settle as well last night, due to the cloudbanks covering the sky. That means it will become moist more rapidly during the day today, losing its firmness more swiftly. Bed surfaces for slab avalanches are most often found above approximately 2300 m on west to north to east facing slopes: a loosely packed, faceted layer, not especially large scaled, which in turn makes far-reaching fracture propagation unlikely. Caution is urged towards the surface hoar in shady, high alpine regions near ridgelines in the regions along the Main Alpine Ridge. Fresh snowdrift is very poorly bonded with it! The snowpack surface is highly irregular: melt-freeze crusts at low and intermediate altitudes, often brittle, sometimes capable of bearing loads. With ascending altitude, a snowpack heavily influenced by winds is prevalent, with wind crusts which are sometimes capable of bearing loads.

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

Weather in general: Tyrol, lying at the vanguard of a low pressure system over the British Isles, is saddled with a southerly air current. Foehn winds on the northern flank of the Alps, gradually increasing precipitation on the southern flank. Mountain weather today: in the foehn exposed areas on the northern flank of the Alps, as well as in exposed ridgeline areas, storm strength southerly winds prevail. The clouds are often above the summits, so will disperse somewhat through the wind. Along the Main Alpine Ridge and in the Southern Alps, poorer visibility and incrementally increasing snowfall, becoming heavier the further south you go. Temperature at 2000 m: minus 1 degree; at 3000 m: minus 6 degrees. Strong southerly winds, in foehn exposed zones the winds will reach storm strength.

### SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

Fresh snowdrift is the major danger

Patrick Nairz

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe