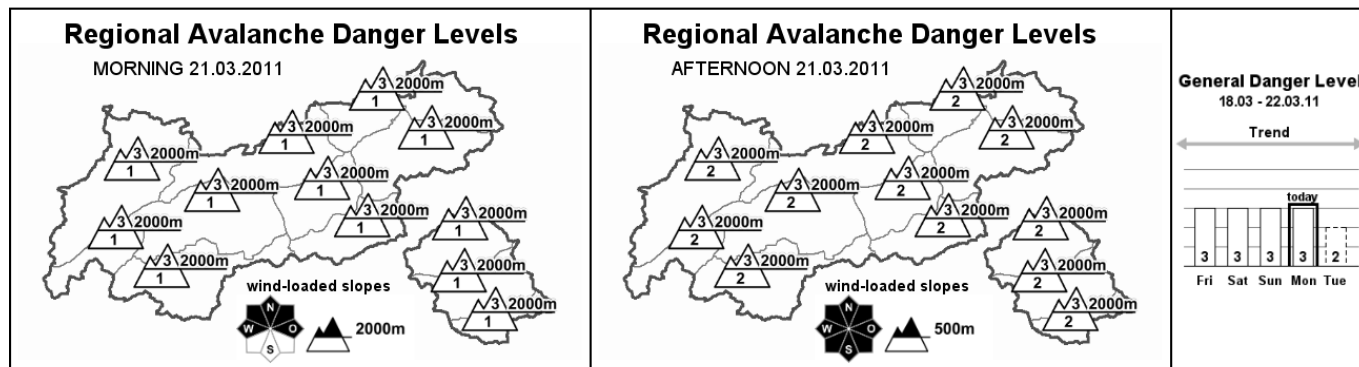


# Avalanche Bulletin

## of the Avalanche Warning Service Tyrol

Monday, 21.03.2011, at 07:30



**Caution especially on west to north to southeast facing slopes above 2000 m - Beware daytime warming**

### AVALANCHE DANGER

The avalanche danger level is contingent on altitude and on the daytime warming cycle. During the morning above approximately 2000 m, the danger is considerable; below that altitude, it is low. As of midday, the danger below 2000 m will rise to moderate, due to the increasing moistness of the snowpack. Most avalanche prone locations are to be found currently on very steep, north facing slopes between about 2200 and 2800 m, where slab avalanches can most easily be triggered, even by minimum additional loading. Also in very steep, particularly west facing areas adjacent to ridge lines, particular caution is urged; in those places, the strong easterly wind has formed new snowdrift masses which particularly above 2100 m can be triggered by backcountry skiers. Due to solar radiation, isolated naturally triggered avalanches are also possible in those places. In general, the danger will escalate over the course of the day on sunny slopes, where loosely packed snow avalanches are likely in extremely steep terrain up to 3000 m.

### SNOW LAYERING

The snowpack has stabilised somewhat, but particularly on north facing slopes above 2000 m is still trigger sensitive. This is particularly the case in unfrequented terrain, where the old snowpack consists largely of faceted, loose crystals. The bonding of the recent snowdrift to the snowpack is inadequate, the proneness to triggering is therefore high. Above 2800 m, the trigger sensitivity decreases, since the old snowpack is more irregular. However, in high alpine regions, the cold, loose, new fallen snow can provide a bed surface for the snowdrift masses which were deposited yesterday. This is especially the case on southwest to west to northwest facing slopes. At low and intermediate altitudes, the snowpack will lose much of its firmness over the course of the day.

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

Weather in general: a powerful high pressure system and an easterly air current will reign today and tomorrow over Tyrol. On Wednesday and Thursday, tranquil, pleasant conditions and temperatures like in springtime. Mountain weather today: pure sunshine in Tyrol's mountains, with outstanding visibility. Only the cold wind at high altitudes, particularly in the eastern mountain ranges and the Hohe Tauern, impedes outdoor enjoyment. The freezing level will remain below 2000 m. Temperature at 2000 m: rising to minus 2 degrees; at 3000 m: rising to minus 7 degrees. Moderate northeasterly to easterly wind; in the Lower Inn Valley and in East Tyrol, the wind will be brisker.

### SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

The avalanche danger will recede incrementally, but remain subject to daytime warming cycle.

Patrick Nairz

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe