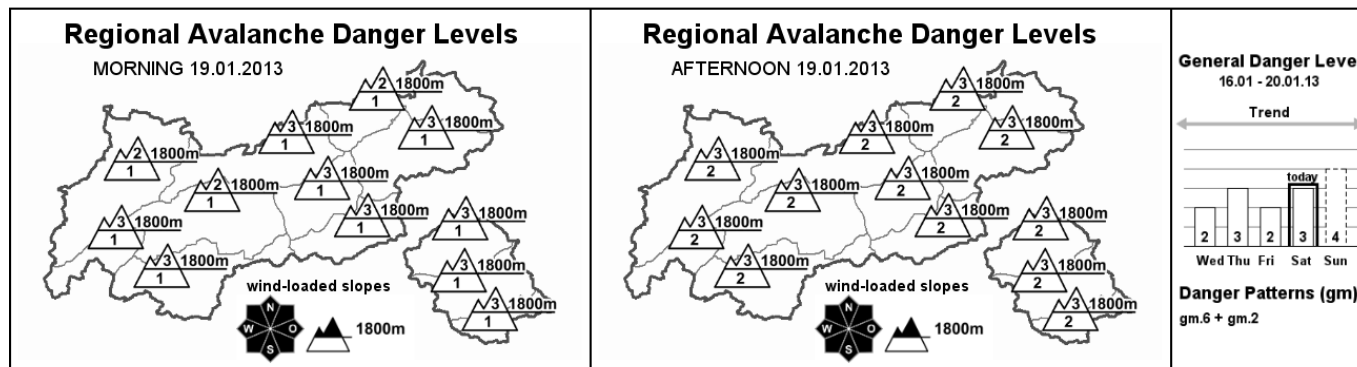


# Avalanche Bulletin

## of the Avalanche Warning Service Tyrol

Saturday, 19.01.2013, at 07:30



**Caution urged towards fresh, trigger sensitive snowdrift wherever there is wind!**

### AVALANCHE DANGER

The avalanche danger continues to directly depend on wind influence in the mountains. In the western sector of the Northern Alps, the Tux Alps and along the Main Alpine Ridge it continues to blow at its strongest velocities. There, at high altitudes, wide ranging, very trigger sensitive snowdrift accumulations have already formed; for that reason the danger level above the tree line in those regions is considerable. Below that altitude the peril is usually low. In the remaining regions the drifted masses are found more seldom. The danger above the tree line is consequently moderate; below the tree line it is low. Throughout Tirol the frequency of danger zones tends to increase with ascending altitude. The hazards are expected to rise over the course of the day today, as winds intensify. The drifted masses can be found in all very steep, ridgeline areas and in gullies and bowls in general. Even minimal additional loading is sufficient to trigger an avalanche. Further, in spite of the low temperatures, full depth snowslides can release on steep, grassy slopes. Caution is urged wherever glide cracks appear in the snow cover.

### SNOW LAYERING

Perfect powder and highly trigger sensitive snow drift accumulations continue to characterize the snow cover in Tirol. Slab avalanches can release at the point of contact between fresh snow drift and the loosely packed, cold new fallen snow beneath it. Snow analysis has shown that the bonding is weak. Inside the old snowpack there are - particularly in the inneralpine regions and along the Main Alpine Ridge - also weak layers of depth hoar. However these are probably only to be triggered in isolated cases in very steep terrain where the snow is shallow on west-northwest to north to east-northeast facing slopes by large additional loading.

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

Mountain weather today: variably cloudy, the higher summits will be concealed in fog. The wind will be strong over the knolls and in the wind-exposed corridors, the temperatures will rise somewhat at all altitudes. Temperature at 2000 m: minus 2 degrees; at 3000 m: minus 7 degrees. Moderate southwesterly winds, in foehn lanes winds will be strong to stormy. Weather in general: A low is forming over the Pyrenees, the intermediate high over the Alps will soon disperse and bring increasingly moist and milder air masses to the Alps in a southwesterly current.

### SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

Storm strength winds in the mountains will increase the avalanche danger

Patrick Nairz

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe