



IFMGA Webinar

May, 12th, 2021



Mountain permafrost an invisible threat for mountaineers ?

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Source : Scoria hut

Pic : J.C Bèche



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Mountain permafrost an invisible threat for mountaineers ?

1. What is permafrost ?
2. Where is permafrost in mountain areas ?
3. What are the different mountain permafrost grounds ?
4. How does mountain permafrost evolve ?
5. How does permafrost impact mountain practices ?
6. Can we determine the most dangerous areas and periods ?



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Mountain permafrost an invisible threat for mountaineers ?

- Mountain permafrost affects a large proportion of the ground and is found in most alpine ranges worldwide
- Investigations on its distribution, evolution and its link with rockfall have started only in the 2000s
- There is a clear link of rockfall occurrence and permafrost dynamics
- This impacts mountaineering practices because mountain routes are changing, conditions become more unpredictable or more dangerous
- Permafrost dynamics have impacts that go further than mountaineering practices, notably through rock avalanches and cascading processes



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**Thank you
for you
attention!!**

**Any
question ?**

