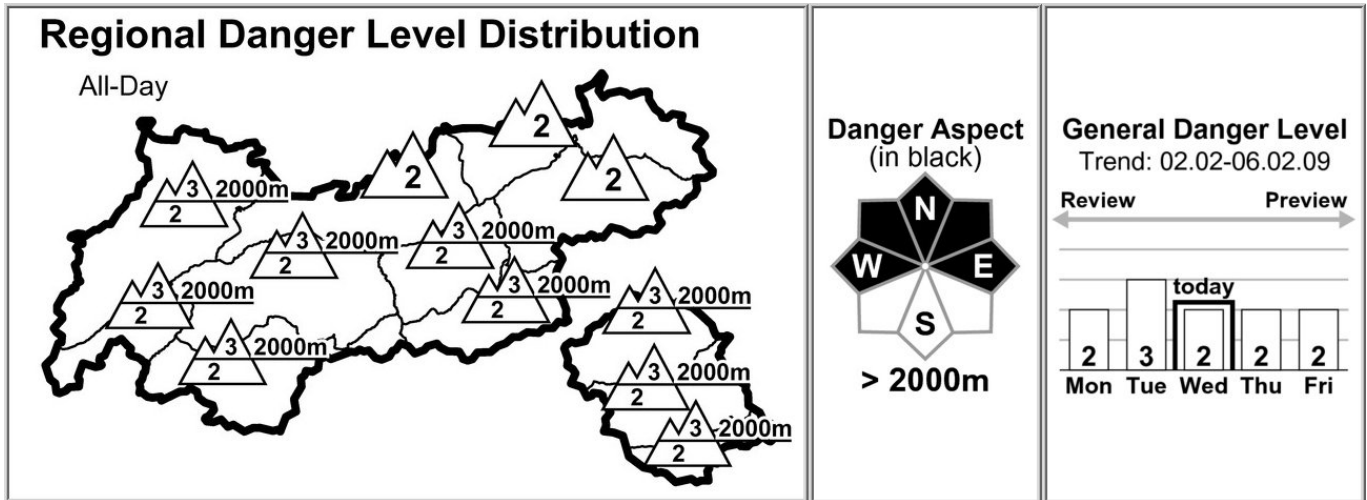


# Avalanche Bulletin

## of the Avalanche Warning Service Tyrol

Wednesday, 04.02.2009, at 07:30



**BEWARE SLAB AVALANCHES IN HIGH ALPINE REGIONS, BEWARE WET SNOW AVALANCHES IN LOW LYING AREAS!**

### AVALANCHE DANGER

The avalanche danger in Tyrol's touring regions has subsided slightly, but in high alpine regions is still considerable in places. Avalanche prone locations are to be found primarily on west to north to east facing steep slopes above approximately 2000 m and in snowdrifted gullies and bowls. Snowdrift accumulations which have been formed by foehn winds in recent days are still trigger sensitive and can often be unleashed by a single backcountry skier or freerider. Below about 2200 m, the snowpack on sunny slopes has forfeited much of its firmness through the higher temperatures and solar radiation; in these places, increasingly frequent natural moist sluffs and wet avalanches can be expected.

### SNOW LAYERING

New fallen snow and snowdrift from the most recent period of precipitation often blanket a snowpack quite low in tensions. Nonetheless, the surface of the old snowpack often consists of loosely packed, unbonded snow crystals, making the bonding to the latest snowdrift masses quite inadequate in places. On sunny slopes, the snowpack at intermediate altitudes is already moist on the surface, meaning it has lost some of its stability

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

General weather conditions: several low pressure spirals are circulating over western Europe. Above the Alps, this will bring a southwesterly air current, which will temporarily weaken today, then regain in strength tomorrow. Over the weekend, a cold front will reach Tyrol. Mountain weather today: excellent conditions for backcountry skiers and freeriders: sunshine and only a few clouds above the summits. The winds will not be disturbing, apart from the classic foehn areas. And the temperatures are pleasantly mild, the freezing level will rise to about 2000 m. Temperatures at 2000 m: between minus 2 and plus 1 degree; at 3000 m: minus 7 degrees. Generally light southwesterly winds, on foehn mountains they will be of moderate strength.

### SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

Danger of slab avalanches is diminishing.

Rudi Mair

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe