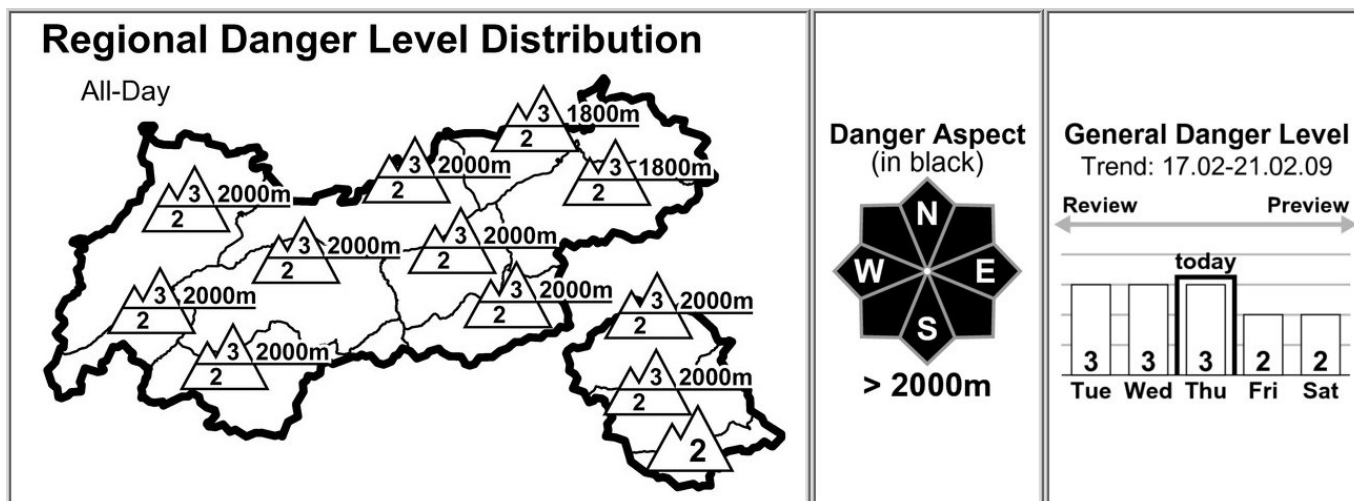


# Avalanche Bulletin

## of the Avalanche Warning Service Tyrol

Thursday, 19.02.2009, at 07:30



## IN HIGH ALPINE REGIONS, CONSIDERABLE AVALANCHE DANGER WIDESPREAD

### AVALANCHE DANGER

The avalanche danger in Tyrol's backcountry touring regions has diminished somewhat, but is still assessed to be considerable widespread above approximately 2000 m. The major hazard stems from the snowdrift accumulations from the most recent period of precipitation, which are to be found on steep slopes in all aspects above approximately 2000 m. The weight of a single backcountry skier or freerider is generally sufficient to unleash a slab avalanche. Particularly on sun-bathed slopes, isolated natural avalanches can be triggered, although the danger has diminished.

### SNOW LAYERING

Yesterday there were a number of natural avalanches of medium size and a few large sized ones as well. The avalanches artificially triggered by explosives were generally successful. The new fallen snow from this period of precipitation has now consolidated further through its own weight and the solar radiation, despite the low temperatures; moreover, the bonding inside the old snowpack has also improved somewhat. Nonetheless, weak layers are still evident inside the snowpack which can serve as potential bed surfaces for avalanches.

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

General weather conditions: Tyrol is wedged between a high pressure zone with its center west of Ireland and a low pressure zone over eastern and southeastern Europe, in the path of a cold northerly airstream which still holds several disturbances for Tyrol in store over the next few days. Southern regions lie in the wind protected zone of the Central Alps, which will tend to keep them dry. Mountain weather today: above the high fog, cloudless skies and lots of sunshine, at least until midday. Due to the low temperatures, the snow will remain powdery, but brittle; thus, the dangers outlined in the avalanche bulletin still require great caution. During the afternoon, high altitude clouds will move over Tyrol from the north, but not impede visibility. On the southern flank of the Alps, cloudless skies. Temperature at 2000 m: minus 13 degrees; at 3000 m: minus 16 degrees. Light to moderate northerly winds.

### SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

The avalanche danger has diminished another notch.

Rudi Mair

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe