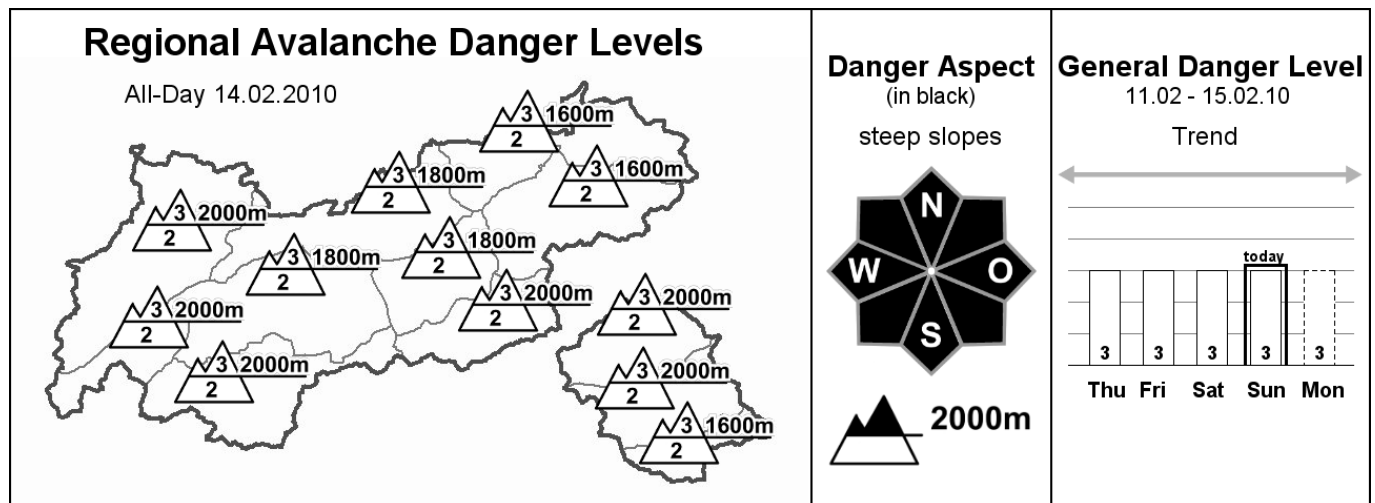


# Avalanche Bulletin

## of the Avalanche Warning Service Tyrol

Sunday, 14.02.2010, at 07:30



### Considerable avalanche danger - Perils extremely hard to assess

#### AVALANCHE DANGER

The avalanche danger in Tyrol's backcountry touring regions is subsiding only very gradually and remains considerable widely spread. Avalanche prone locations are to be found on steep slopes in all expositions, along the Main Alpine Ridge above approximately 2000 m, elsewhere above approximately 1800 m. The major hazard stems from freshly formed and older snowdrift accumulations, which lie on top of a loosely packed, trigger sensitive old snowpack. Avalanches can still be released by minimum additional loading, even the weight of a single backcountry skier or freerider. Since the danger zones are often covered and concealed by fresh fallen snow, the perils are extremely difficult to recognize in open terrain. Extensive experience in correctly spotting and evaluating avalanche dangers is imperative for step-by-step decision making. In steep, sun-bathed starting zones, the danger of naturally triggered loose snow avalanches will escalate over the course of the day.

#### SNOW LAYERING

The sunny, cold, deep wintery weather is helping to gradually diminish the tensions inside the snowpack. Caution is ongoingly urged towards the unfavourable snow layering, which consists by and large of faceted, very loosely packed snow crystals. Atop this unbonded base which is prone to triggering lie new fallen snow and snowdrift from the last period of precipitation. The bonding of freshly formed and older snowdrift accumulations with the previously existing snowpack is generally poor, avalanches can still be triggered with relative ease.

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

Weather: weak air currents without disturbances currently shape the weather in Tyrol. As of Monday, a southwesterly current will form which will be the dominant factor in next week's weather. On the southern flank of the Alps, the air will be more humid, on the northern flank of the Alps foehn winds are anticipated. Slowly, incrementally, temperatures will rise. Mountain weather today: sunny and cold in Tyrol's mountains. In North Tyrol, fog up to about 1600 m. The high fog will disperse somewhat over the course of the day. Tonight in the Northern Alps as far as the western part of the Main Alpine Ridge, heavy clouds down to just over summit altitudes. It will remain dry. Temperature at 2000 m: minus 10 degrees; at 3000 m: minus 15 degrees. Moderate to brisk southwesterly winds at high altitudes; in the Tux Alps the wind will be strong to begin with.

#### SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

Still considerable avalanche danger in many high alpine regions.

Rudi Mair

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe