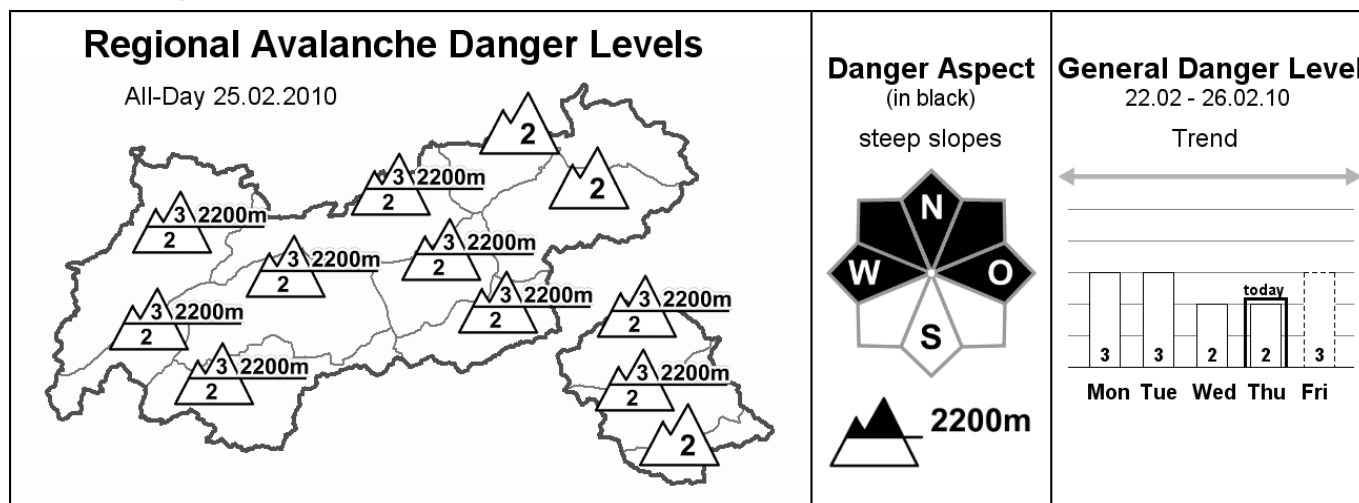


# Avalanche Bulletin

## of the Avalanche Warning Service Tyrol

Thursday, 25.02.2010, at 07:30



**Avalanche danger largely a matter of altitude: moderate below 2200 m, considerable above**

### AVALANCHE DANGER

The avalanche danger in Tyrol's backcountry touring regions is by and large contingent on altitude: below about 2200 m it is generally moderate, above that altitude it is still considerable widespread. Avalanche prone locations are to be found primarily on west to north to southeast facing steep slopes. Transition areas from shallow to deeply snowdrifted terrain in particular necessitate great caution; in such places avalanches can be triggered even by minimum additional loading, i.e. the weight of a single backcountry skier or snowboarder. The conditions are currently most favourable on the frequently and heavily used routes for backcountry tours. Below about 2000 m, caution is urged towards steep, grass covered slopes today, where full depth snowslides and, in isolated cases, moist sluffs are possible.

### SNOW LAYERING

Solar radiation and mild temperatures are helping the layers of the snowpack nearest the surface to settle and consolidate as far up as intermediate altitudes. However, caution is urged towards the generally unfavourable snow layering. On the one hand, the layering is highly variable even over small surface areas. On the other, the fundament of the snowpack consists of faceted, and thus very loosely packed snow crystals. On top of this trigger sensitive base lie snowdrift accumulations of varying depths from the most recent period of precipitation which are no longer quite as brittle and prone to triggering as they were last weekend, but can still be unleashed with relative ease.

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

Weather: a powerful low pressure zone is approaching from the Atlantic, bringing in its van a foehn wind current. On Friday, a cold front belonging to this zone will traverse Austria. On the weekend, the current will shift again to southwesterly and supply the Alps with milder air masses. Mountain weather today: variable conditions, intermittent sunshine with few clouds. Foehn winds will increase in velocity over the course of the day. During the afternoon, the higher summits on the Main Alpine Ridge and south thereof will struggle with fog. Temperature at 2000 m: minus 4 to plus 1 degree; at 3000 m: minus 10 to minus 5 degrees. Moderate southwesterly winds at high altitudes, in foehn exposed regions the wind will be quite brisk.

### SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

Slightly escalating avalanche danger due to snowfall and wind.

Rudi Mair

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe