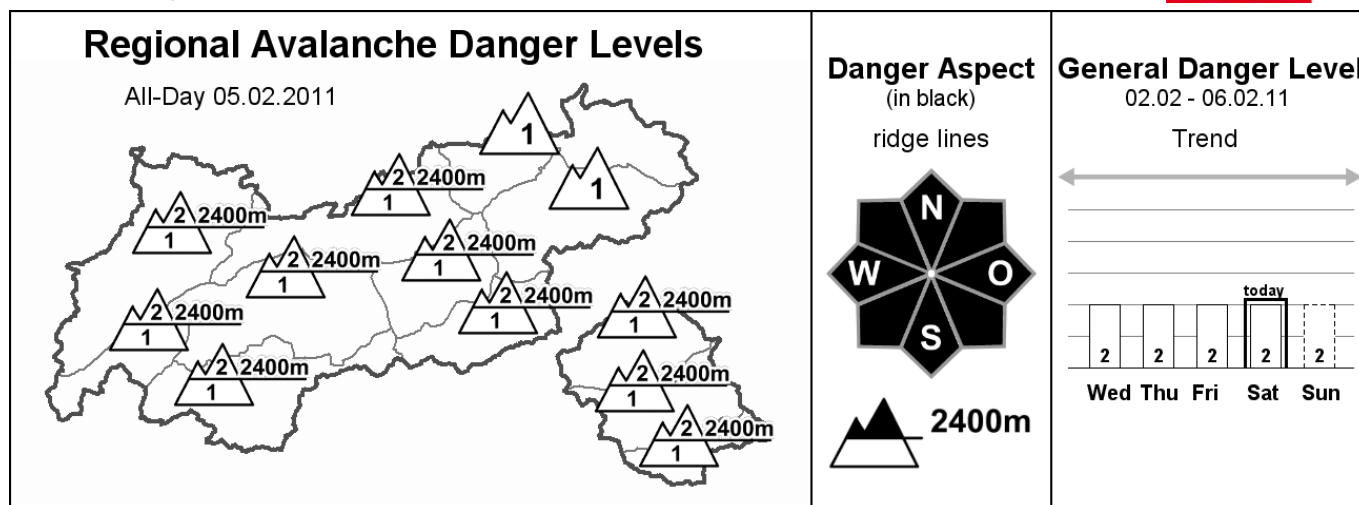


# Avalanche Bulletin

## of the Avalanche Warning Service Tyrol

Saturday, 05.02.2011, at 07:30



**Mostly favourable backcountry touring conditions - Beware strong northwesterly winds**

### AVALANCHE DANGER

In Tyrol's backcountry touring regions, predominantly favourable conditions for backcountry tours prevail. The avalanche danger level below about 2400 m is usually low; above that altitude, moderate. Care is advised today due to the strong northwesterly wind, which will give rise to relatively small sized snowdrift accumulations particularly in high alpine areas near ridge lines. Avalanche prone locations are to be found in ridge line areas and in heavily drifted gullies and bowls. Since the snowdrift masses are, in general, inadequately bonded with the old snowpack surface, they are quite prone to triggering. In isolated cases, even minimum additional loading is sufficient to trigger them. On steep, intensely sun-bathed slopes below about 2500 m, naturally triggered moist sluffs are expected with increasing frequency.

### SNOW LAYERING

The snow depths throughout Tyrol are below average. At low and intermediate altitudes, springtime conditions prevail: during the day, the crusts transform to firn snow; during the cold, clear nights, there is intense outgoing radiation, which leads to a crust forming anew and sufficiently hardening so that by morning it is often capable of bearing loads. In high alpine regions, the snowpack surface has been heavily impacted by winds; particularly in areas adjacent to ridge lines, freshly formed and older snowdrift accumulations are evident. Elsewhere, the surface is sometimes compacted by wind, sometimes has a breakable crust. In wind protected zones, there is still loosely packed powder snow.

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

Weather in general: a high, extending from Spain to the Alps, reigns supreme and will determine our weather conditions until the middle of next week. At high altitudes, the brisk westerly air current will dominate the northern flank of the Alps. Mountain weather today: very little cloud, superb visibility, springtime conditions dominate the weather in the mountains. The freezing level will rise from 2600 to 2900 m. Temperature at 2000 m: plus 5 degrees; at 3000 m: minus 1 degree. Moderate northwesterly winds at high altitudes; on the northern flank of the Alps, however, the wind will be very strong.

### SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

Generally favourable conditions, moderate avalanche danger.

Rudi Mair

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe