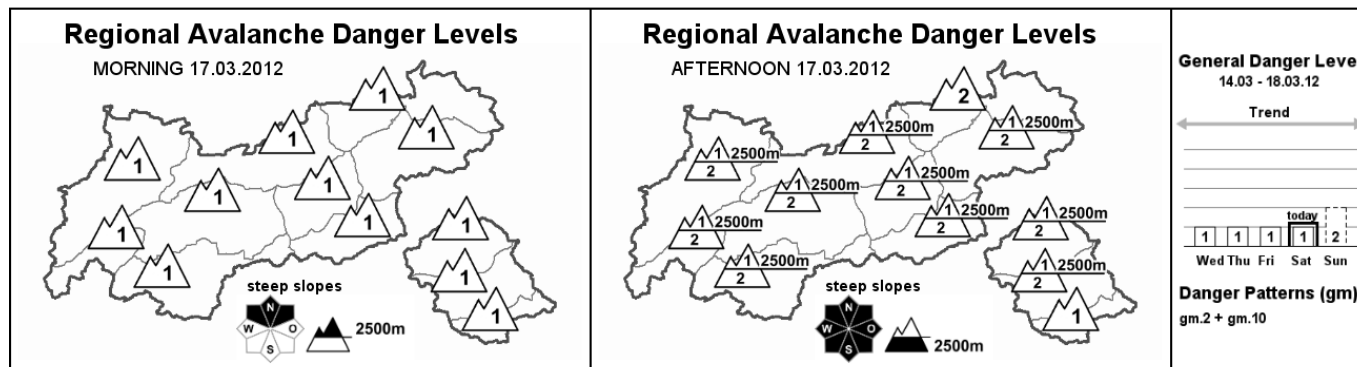


# Avalanche Bulletin

## of the Avalanche Warning Service Tyrol

Saturday, 17.03.2012, at 07:30



## Very favourable touring conditions - Daytime rise in full depth snowslide danger

### AVALANCHE DANGER

Once again, very favourable backcountry touring conditions prevail. The danger level is low during the morning; as the snowpack becomes more moist it increases to moderate below 2500 m as of about midday. Wet sluffs can be triggered by backcountry skiers and freeriders on very steep, sunny slopes; the danger of full depth snowslides also escalates as the surface becomes moist, particularly on steep, sunny slopes below about 2500 m. Due to above average snow depths, such snowslides can attain much larger than usual size.

### SNOW LAYERING

The snowpack cooled and consolidated well overnight. Thus, on very steep slopes widespread, there is a melt freeze crust capable of bearing loads in the early morning hours, which softens up through the morning. Launching a descent early rewards one with great firm snow. Weak layers for slab avalanches are rare; if at all, they are to be found on very steep, shady slopes above approximately 2500 m where the snow is shallow. A fundament of depth hoar from early winter, especially on glaciers, is not expected to release. Intensifying winds along the Main Alpine Ridge will slow down the moistening process of the snowpack.

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

Weather in general: The high pressure system is slowly being replaced by a southwesterly air current. On Sunday there will be foehn wind in North Tirol and barrier cloudbanks on the southern flank of the Alps. A cold front will approach the westernmost regions which will bring rainfall on Monday. Mountain weather today: pure sunshine in the early part of the day. This afternoon, clouds will move in, becoming denser in the western part of the Main Alpine Ridge. Tonight, the clouds will gather into the usual barrier effect from the south as far as the Main Ridge. On the northern flank of the Alps, clear skies are expected tonight, accompanied by southerly winds; in wind protected valleys, the outgoing radiation will be adequate. Temperature at 2000 m: plus 4 degrees; at 3000 m: minus 3 degrees. Moderate southwesterly winds; in the Tux Alps and the customary mountain ranges of the northern flank of the Alps, winds will be strong.

### SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

The snowpack has very little outgoing radiation, especially in southern regions. Favourable conditions will continue at high altitude.

Patrick Nairz

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe