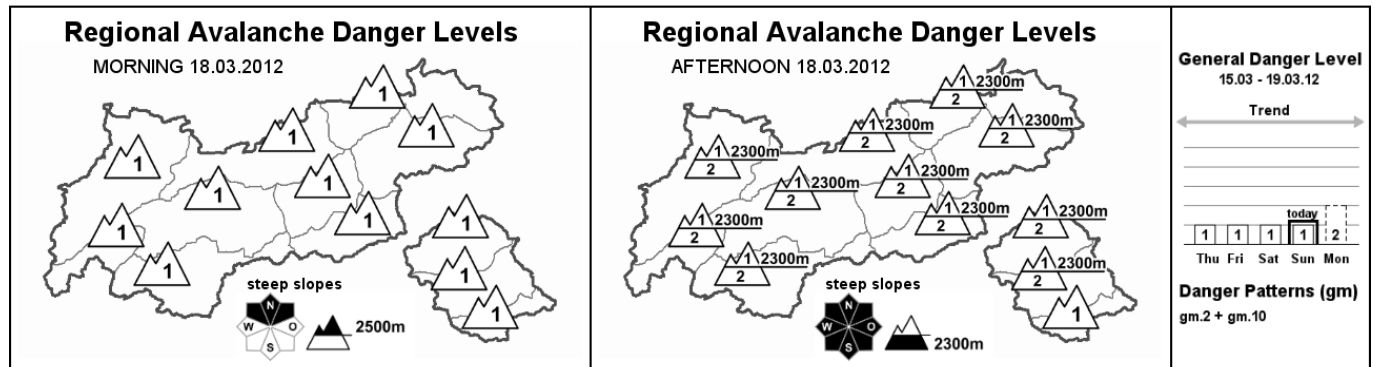


# Avalanche Bulletin

## of the Avalanche Warning Service Tyrol

Sunday, 18.03.2012, at 07:30



## Favourable conditions continue - slightly rising daytime danger

### AVALANCHE DANGER

Once again, favourable backcountry touring conditions reign in Tirol. The avalanche danger level is low during the morning; as of about midday below 2300 m, it increases to moderate. Above that altitude it remains low. Caution is again urged towards the moistening of the snowpack. In extremely steep, sunny terrain, wet snowslides can be triggered. Steep, east facing slopes are endangered earlier in the day than south and west facing slopes. Today the snowpack will become wet soonest in the borderline area between cloudy southern regions and generally cloudless northern regions, since heightened diffuse radiation is expected there. Wind will have a positive influence by cooling the snowpack. Elsewhere, caution continues to be necessary towards full depth snowslides which can release on steep, grassy slopes in isolated cases. Areas below glide cracks in the snowpack should be altogether avoided for that reason.

### SNOW LAYERING

Last night, following the withdrawal of the clouds which moved in yesterday afternoon, the skies over Tirol were clear and star-studded, in general. The snowpack again consolidated well. On sunny, very steep slopes, there is a melt freeze crust during the morning hours which is capable of bearing loads, but which will soften up during the day. As of midday, the crust will be breakable usually only beneath about 2100 m on sunny slopes. The somewhat lower temperatures will slow down the moistening, i.e. softening process; the strong winds will have a similar effect. Weak layers inside the snowpack are rare; at most on shady, very steep slopes along the Main Alpine Ridge above about 2500 m in places where the snow is shallow, a layer of faceted crystals is evident. On glaciers, the fundament of depth hoar from early winter no longer presents a danger

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

Weather in general: southwesterly, foehn winds with barrier cloud effect on the southern flank of the Alps. Towards Monday a cold front will bring precipitation from the west. As of Tuesday, the high pressure system will regain influence, although a low over Spain will repeatedly bring clouds to the Alps from the south. Mountain weather today: Following a night which cleared up in its latter half, a very sunny but rather windy morning follows on the northern flank of the Alps today. On the Main Alpine Ridge and in southern regions, heavy cloud and intermittent snow flurries. Tonight, a cold front from the west will bring snowfall and lower temperatures: 10 to 15 cm of new fallen snow are expected by tomorrow morning in the Upper Inn Valley mountains. Temperature at 2000 m: minus 1 degree this afternoon; at 3000 m: minus 8 degrees. Southerly to southwesterly foehn-storm winds reaching 80 to 100 km/h, slackening off significantly this evening.

### SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

Quite favourable conditions continue. Fresh, small snowdrift masses in ridgeline areas require caution.

Patrick Nairz

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe