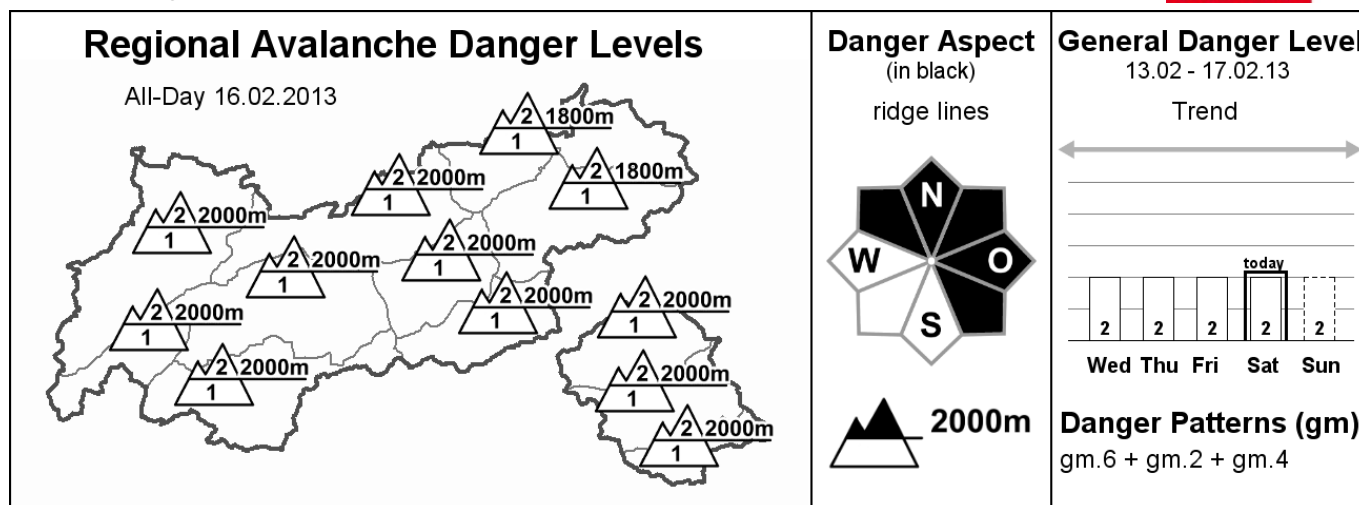


# Avalanche Bulletin

## of the Avalanche Warning Service Tyrol

Saturday, 16.02.2013, at 07:30



### Favourable touring conditions, excluding steep ridgeline areas

#### AVALANCHE DANGER

The conditions for backcountry skiing and freeriding tours are increasingly favourable. Above approximately 2000 m, avalanche danger is moderate; below that altitude, low. The major peril stems from fresh, usually small snowdrift accumulations which occur in steep ridgeline areas and in gullies and bowls. With ascending altitude, their frequency tends to increase. Caution: even minimum additional loading is sufficient to trigger them. Only in very isolated cases in wind-impacted areas near the treeline up to about 2300 m can the old snowpack be released in very steep terrain through large additional loading. Below about 2400 m, in addition, full depth snowslides are still possible on steep, grassy slopes. This applies particularly to areas where glide cracks have opened in the snowpack surface.

#### SNOW LAYERING

Over the last 24 hours there has been as much as 10 cm of snowfall in Tirol, amidst mostly light to moderate winds. In ridgeline areas winds were strong enough to transport the very loose, light snow and form new snowdrift masses. The bonding between the recently drifted snow and the cold, loose, light snow beneath it, which, in turn, has often been deposited atop surface hoar, is generally poor. Drifted masses are, however, not large or deep. Inside the old snowpack near rain and melt-freeze crusts, faceted crystals are to be found, particularly between 1900 and 2300 m. Although they occur only in small "nests" this layer is the most easily triggered one in areas which have felt the impact of the wind.

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

Mountain weather today: In the Northern Alps and frequently on the Main Alpine Ridge visibility is much impaired by cloud and fog, in eastern regions also be light snowfall. The glacier regions in the western sector of the Main Alpine Ridge will penetrate the cloud. In the Southern Alps only cloud which is above summit altitude, i.e. more pleasant conditions. Temperature at 2000 m: minus 9 degrees; at 3000 m: minus 16 degrees. Light winds. Weather in general: a small low pressure zone is rotating over Central Europe and moving across the eastern Alps. On Sunday, an intermediate high will dominate over Tirol.

#### SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

Favourable conditions go on

Patrick Nairz

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe