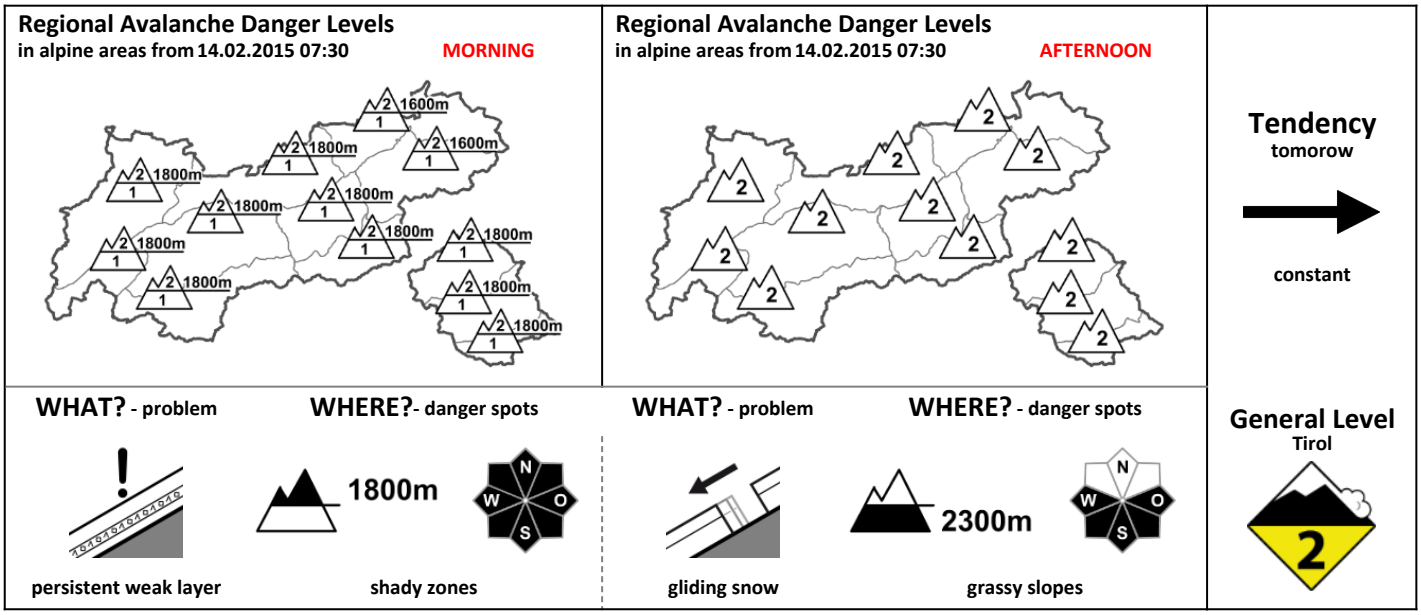
Avalanche Bulletin
of the Avalanche Warning Service Tyrol
Saturday, 14.02.2015, at 07:30 Uhr



DANGER PATTERNS (DP): dp.1 - deep persistent weak layer dp.7 - snow-poor zones in snow-rich surrounding dp.2 - gliding snow

Caution on unfrequented, very steep, shady slopes

AVALANCHE DANGER

Avalanche danger in Tirol is moderate widespread; below 1800m it is generally low. However the dangers will increase to moderate during the course of the day. Avalanche prone locations are frequent in very steep, shady terrain above sparsely wooded areas to about 2600m and adjacent to ridgelines. Particularly in steep terrain which is not heavily frequented, avalanches can still be triggered by minimum additional loading. On steep, sunny slopes the situation has improved, avalanches are likely to release where snow is shallow, and only by large additional loading. This afternoon, the likelihood of triggering will increase somewhat above about 2300m wherever the snowpack is thoroughly wet. West and east facing slopes are more trigger sensitive than south facing ones. Steep, grassy slopes have had isolated gliding avalanches.

SNOW LAYERING

The snowpack is settling and consolidating visibly, particularly on sunny slopes. The surface increasingly has melt-freeze crusts, usually breakable but on steep slopes often capable of bearing loads, especially at 2000m and upwards in south facing terrain. Melting aids consolidation of snow crystals, stabilizes the interior of the snowpack. Weak layers are still evident on shady slopes. Between embedded crusts, layers of faceted crystals still threaten, as does depth hoar. Their bonding, particularly where the snow is shallow, is poor.

ALPINE WEATHER FORECAST (ZAMG-WEATHER SERVICE INNSBRUCK)

Mountain weather: on the northern flank of the Alps visibility is good, amidst moderate foehn winds and high altitude cirrus clouds. Mostly sunny, but no longer cloudless. Along the Main Alpine Ridge and southwards thereof, visibility will deteriorate later as cloud moves in. A few snowflakes in the Ortler and Sarntal regions are possible this afternoon. Temperature at 2000m, -2 degrees; at 3000m, -9 degrees. Moderate to brisk SW winds; stronger in the Tux Alps.

SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

Caution: small, fresh snowdrifts in high alpine regions

Patrick Nairz **Translated by Jeffrey McCabe**