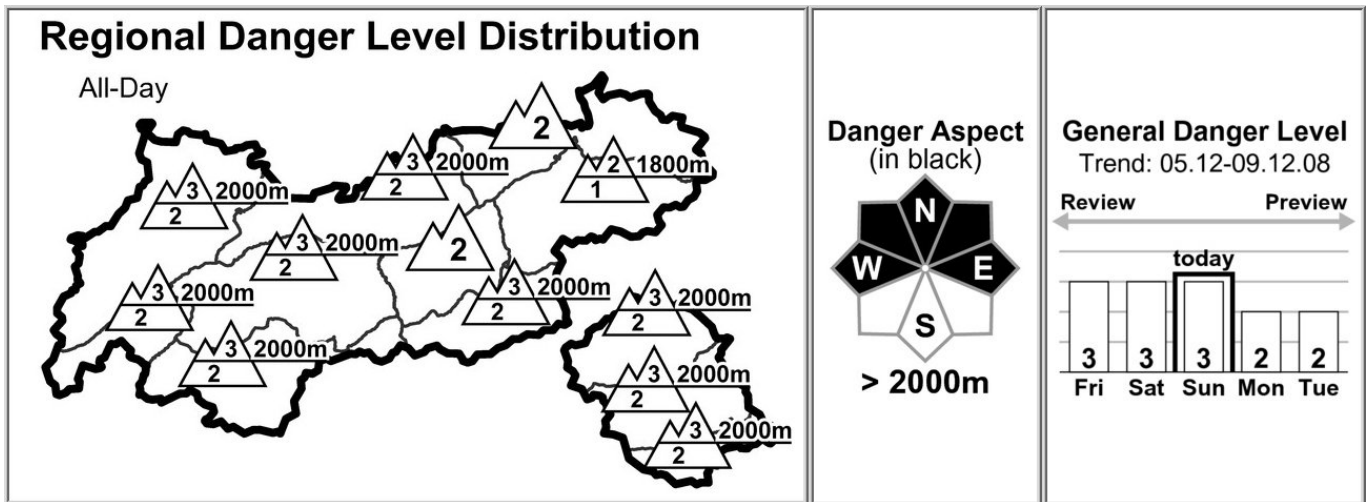


Avalanche Bulletin

of the Avalanche Warning Service Tyrol

Sunday, 07.12.2008, at 07:30



CONSIDERABLE AVALANCHE DANGER IN SOME PLACES OF HIGH ALPINE REGIONS

AVALANCHE DANGER

The avalanche hazards in Tyrol's backcountry touring regions are generally dependent on altitude: below about 2000 m, the danger is mostly moderate, above that altitude it is widespread considerable. The major hazard stems from freshly formed and older snowdrift accumulations, which are to be found primarily on west to north to east facing steep slopes, and generally in areas adjacent to ridge lines in all aspects of high alpine regions. A slab avalanche can be triggered even by minimum addition loading in these areas, including a single backcountry skier or freerider. Below about 2200 m, isolated full depth snowslides can be expected on steep grassy hillsides in particular.

SNOW LAYERING

Over the last 24 hours in the northwestern barrier-effect regions of the Arlberg, the Silvretta, in Ausserfern and in the western part of the northern flank of the Alps in Tyrol, there has been 20 to 30 cm of new snow. In the remaining regions of North Tyrol there was generally 5 to 10 cm, in East Tyrol it remained dry. The high altitude westerly winds were brisk, sometimes strong, and created new, small sized snowdrift accumulations in high alpine regions adjacent to ridge lines in particular. These fresh snowdrift accumulations are predominantly still poorly bonded to the old snowpack, especially on shady, high alpine slopes.

ALPINE WEATHER FORECAST (ZAMG-WEATHER SERVICE INNSBRUCK)

Tyrol is in a northwesterly airstream, which to begin with is supplying cold, moist air masses to the northern flank of the Alps. Northerly foehn winds are evident on the southern flank of the Alps. A high pressure zone is gradually moving in from the west. Towards Monday, the air masses will turn increasingly dry. Today the northern Alps are generally shrouded in clouds, the visibility is much impeded and it will snow intermittently, primarily from the Arlberg over the Karwendel into the Kitzbüheler Alps, as well as in the Hohe Tauern. Along the western part of the Main Alpine Ridge, bright spells are anticipated in the afternoon. In the southern Alps it will be quite sunny, amid icy cold northerly winds. Temperature at 2000 m: minus 8 degrees; at 3000 m: minus 15 degrees. Moderate, occasionally stronger northwesterly winds at high altitudes.

SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

The avalanche danger will subside somewhat.

Rudi Mair

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe