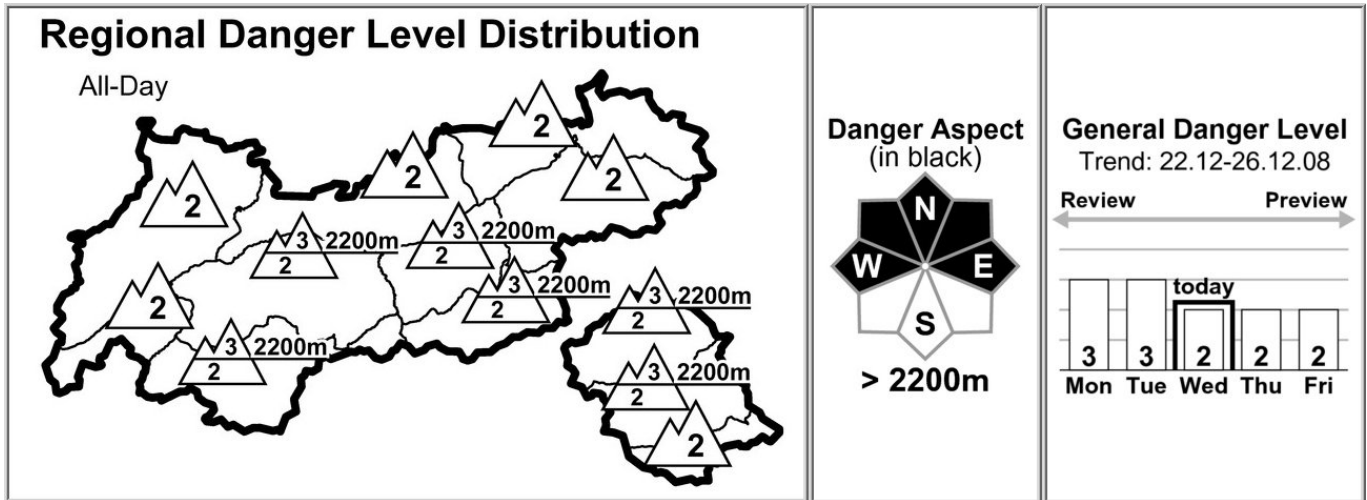


Avalanche Bulletin

of the Avalanche Warning Service Tyrol

Wednesday, 24.12.2008, at 07:30



PREDOMINANTLY MODERATE AVALANCHE DANGER

AVALANCHE DANGER

The avalanche danger in Tyrol's backcountry touring regions has receded another increment to the level of moderate, far and wide. Avalanche prone locations are to be found primarily on west to north to east facing wind loaded slopes and generally in areas adjacent to ridge lines in all aspects. The situation in inneralpine regions persists in being less favourable: the danger above approximately 2200 m is considerable widespread, due to freshly formed snowdrift accumulations and the weaker snow layering. Below about 2400 m, isolated full depth snowslides are possible again today.

SNOW LAYERING

The new snow of last weekend has now settled and consolidated well, thanks to the mild temperatures which have prevailed in the interim. In lower lying areas and at intermediate altitudes, many full depth snowslides have been unleashed, which has eliminated that danger on most of the endangered slopes by now. Nonetheless, strong to stormy northerly to northwesterly winds will bring about new, trigger sensitive snowdrift accumulations, particularly in high alpine areas adjacent to the ridge line. In addition, primarily in inneralpine backcountry touring regions, there are isolated weak layers embedded inside the old snowpack.

ALPINE WEATHER FORECAST (ZAMG-WEATHER SERVICE INNSBRUCK)

Weather: over the British Isles is a high pressure zone which will gain strength over the next few days and slowly exert its influence over Tyrol. To begin with, however, a low pressure zone from the northeast will supply moist air masses to the eastern Alps once again. Mountain weather conditions today: particularly in the westernmost massifs it will be quite sunny, only in the afternoon will visibility deteriorate and become diffuse and high altitude cloudbanks move in. Towards the east, fogbanks will cling to the mountain flanks at around 1500 m, above that clouds will form. Sunshine is also expected on the southern flank of the Alps. Not very cold. Temperature at 2000 m: between minus 5 and minus 2 degrees; at 3000 m: between minus 9 and minus 6 degrees. Moderate, occasionally brisk northerly winds will prevail.

SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

The avalanche danger will continue to be moderate, in general.

Rudi Mair

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe