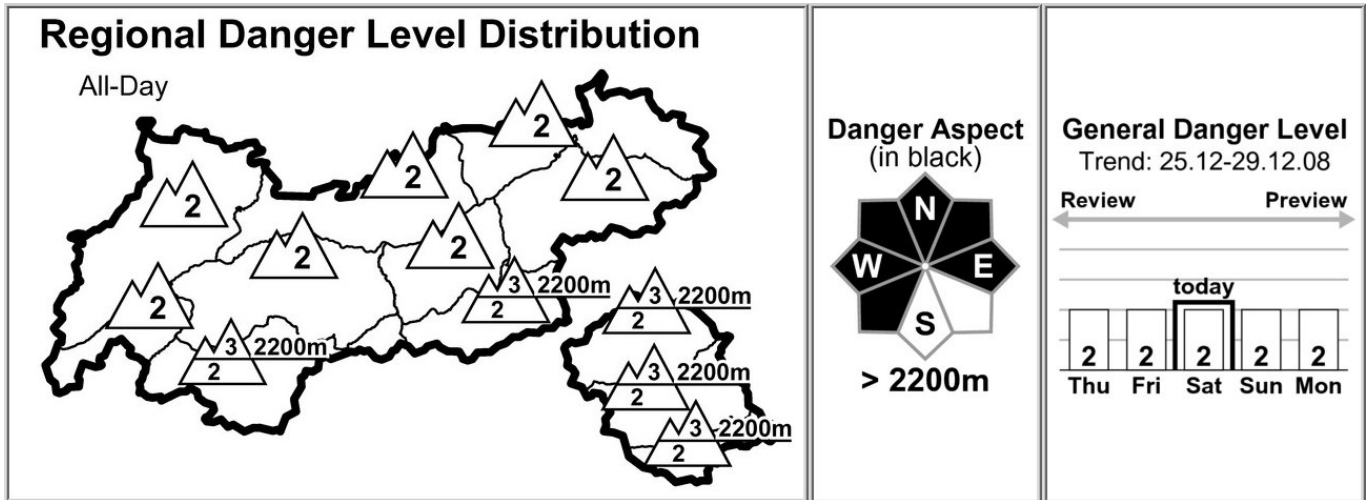


Avalanche Bulletin

of the Avalanche Warning Service Tyrol

Saturday, 27.12.2008, at 07:30



PREDOMINANTLY MODERATE AVALANCHE DANGER, IN HIGH ALPINE REGIONS CONSIDERABLE IN PLACES

AVALANCHE DANGER

The avalanche danger in Tyrol's backcountry touring regions is moderate widespread, though in high alpine regions it is considerable in places due to the latest snowdrifting by the winds. Avalanche prone locations are to be found on southwest to north to east facing steep slopes above approximately 2200 m and in general in areas adjacent to ridge lines in all aspects. Snowdrift accumulations in particular are prone to triggering and can be unleashed by minimum additional loading, even the weight of a single backcountry skier or freerider. The hazards of full depth snowslides have receded still further, such avalanches are now anticipated only in rare cases.

SNOW LAYERING

The old snowpack has settled and consolidated quite well. In low lying areas and at intermediate altitudes, the lower temperatures have had a favourable effect on stabilising the thoroughly moist snowpack, on which a surface crust has often formed. Yesterday, brisk easterly winds transported the snow anew, bringing about more trigger sensitive snowdrift accumulations in high alpine regions. In inneralpine regions in particular there are isolated weak layers embedded inside the old snowpack which can serve as bed surfaces for avalanches.

ALPINE WEATHER FORECAST (ZAMG-WEATHER SERVICE INNSBRUCK)

Weather conditions: in a high pressure front, the next few days will be very cold, with some fog and lots of sunshine. The eye of this front is over the North Sea, easterly air currents prevail. Mountain weather today: the icy northeasterly winds have slackened off markedly since yesterday. In the morning, fog is still expected below about 1000 to 1200 m, otherwise lots of sunshine is anticipated. However, very warm and windproof clothing is recommended. Temperature at 2000 m: minus 8 degrees; at 3000 m: minus 12 degrees. Moderate, icy cold easterly winds at high altitudes.

SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

Increasingly favourable conditions amid moderate avalanche danger.

Rudi Mair

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe