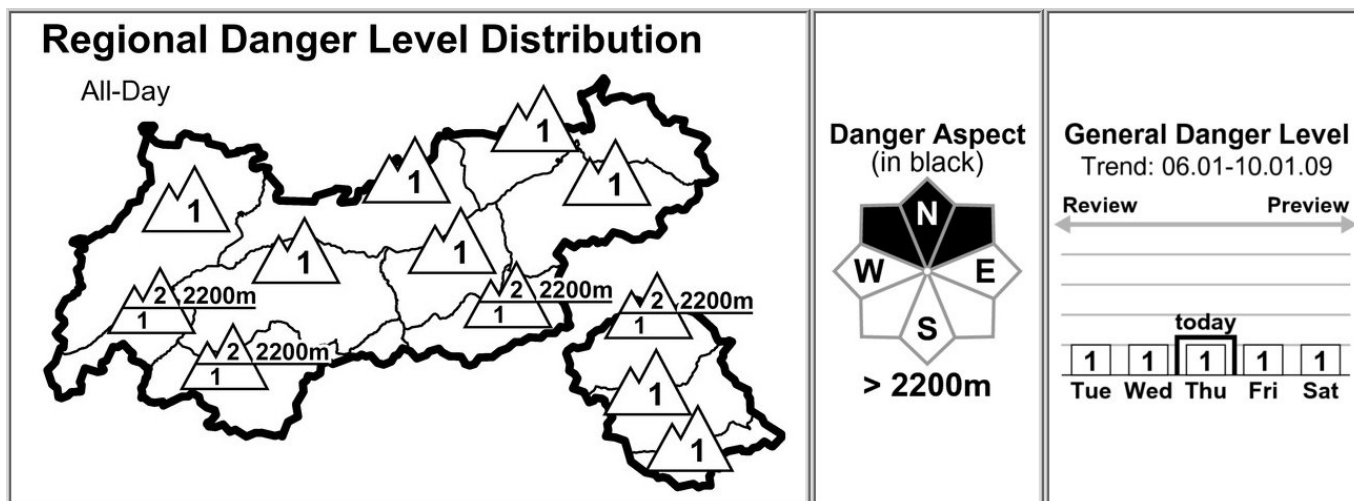


Avalanche Bulletin

of the Avalanche Warning Service Tyrol

Thursday, 08.01.2009, at 07:30



CONTINUING FAVOURABLE CONDITIONS FOR BACKCOUNTRY TOURING, LOW AVALANCHE DANGER WIDESPREAD

AVALANCHE DANGER

The conditions in Tyrol's backcountry touring regions remain good, the avalanche danger is low widespread. Only along the Main Alpine Ridge from the Silvretta over the southern Ötztal and Stubai Alps to the Zillertal Alps and on the East Tyrolean Tauern ridge is the danger above approximately 2200 m moderate. Isolated avalanche prone locations are still to be found on very steep northwest to north to northeast facing slopes and in areas adjacent to ridge lines, where small sized, trigger sensitive snowdrift accumulations can be unleashed, though generally only by large additional loading.

SNOW LAYERING

The snowpack has settled and consolidated well, weak layers are evident only in isolated places. Due to ongoing wintery weather conditions and low temperatures, the snowpack is becoming increasingly faceted, loosely packed and unbonded snow crystals are forming more and more, which decreases the tensions inside the snowpack. The snow surface is highly varied: in wind protected areas, particularly below the treeline, there is still loosely packed powder snow. In high alpine regions, on the other hand, the influence of the wind is apparent everywhere: the surface is brushed clear and hardened, in many places there is a melt freeze crust.

ALPINE WEATHER FORECAST (ZAMG-WEATHER SERVICE INNSBRUCK)

Weather today: a high pressure front has formed over Central Europe which will supply Tyrol's weather over the next few days. Mountain weather today: in the Northern Alps and Central Alps, favourable conditions for backcountry skiers and freeriders prevail, with good visibility. From the Ortler group over the Dolomites to the Carnic Alps the clouds will disperse increasingly during the day. Temperature at 2000 m: between minus 12 and minus 6 degrees; at 3000 m: minus 11 degrees. Light to moderate easterly winds.

SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

Ongoing favourable touring conditions, generally low avalanche danger.

Rudi Mair

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe