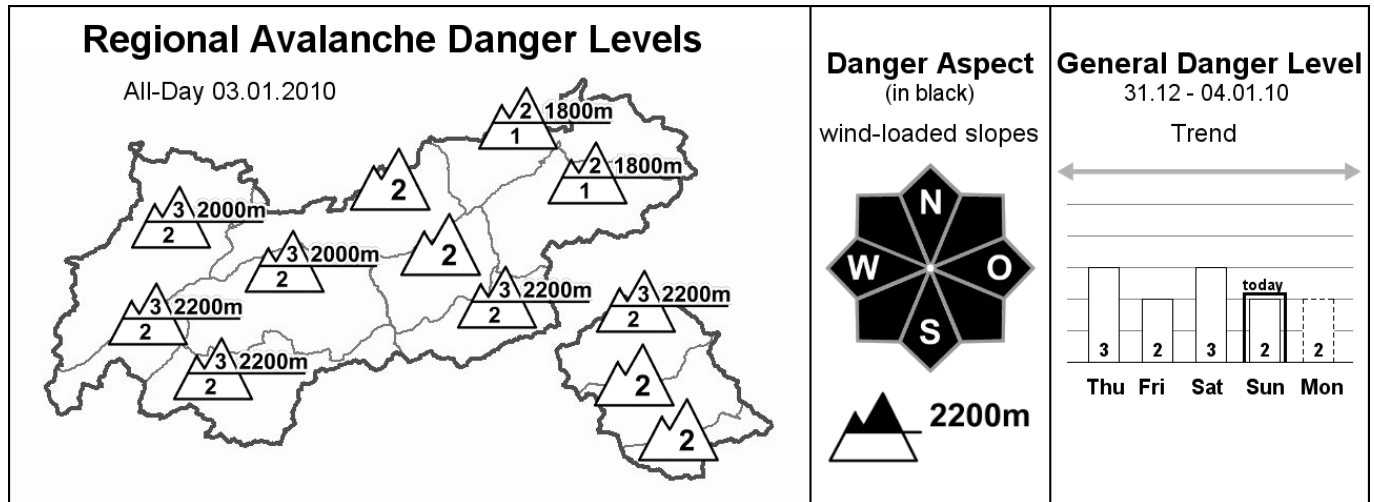


Avalanche Bulletin

of the Avalanche Warning Service Tyrol

Sunday, 03.01.2010, at 07:30



Avalanche danger generally moderate, in high alpine regions still considerable in some places

AVALANCHE DANGER

The avalanche danger in Tyrol's backcountry touring regions is predominantly moderate. However in some high alpine regions it is still considerable. The major peril lies in fresh and older snowdrift accumulations which are poorly bonded with the old snowpack. Avalanche prone locations are to be found on steep and wind loaded slopes in all expositions above approximately 2200 m. Particularly in transition areas from shallow to deep snow, avalanches can be triggered by minimum additional loading, even the weight of a single backcountry skier or boarder. In very steep starting zones, naturally triggered avalanches of loosely packed surface snow can be expected in isolated cases.

SNOW LAYERING

Over the last 24 hours there has generally been only a small amount of snowfall. However, the brisk and gusty westerly to northwesterly winds in high alpine regions have created many new, usually small sized snowdrift accumulations. At low and intermediate altitudes, the thoroughly wet snowpack has stabilised through the lower temperatures. In high alpine regions, old and new snowdrift blankets the old snowpack, in which several loosely packed intermediate layers lie embedded which could serve as bed surfaces for avalanches. In addition, the bonding of the snowdrift accumulations with the old snowpack surface is generally inadequate, enabling avalanches to be released with relative ease.

ALPINE WEATHER FORECAST (ZAMG-WEATHER SERVICE INNSBRUCK)

Weather: an intermediate high will bring quite cold, sunny weather to Tyrol today. Tomorrow the next disturbance will arrive from the west. The high altitude air current will shift to southwesterly, temperatures will rise and conditions will become unstable from the south. Mountain weather today: predominantly sunny, but cold mountain weather today. From the Rofan into the Loferer Steinberge, a few clouds will gather around midday. The wind has slackened off significantly since yesterday; only in high alpine regions is it still moderate. Temperature at 2000 m: minus 15 to minus 11 degrees; at 3000 m: minus 23 to minus 19 degrees. Moderate northwesterly to westerly winds at high altitudes.

SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

Predominantly moderate avalanche danger.

Rudi Mair

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe