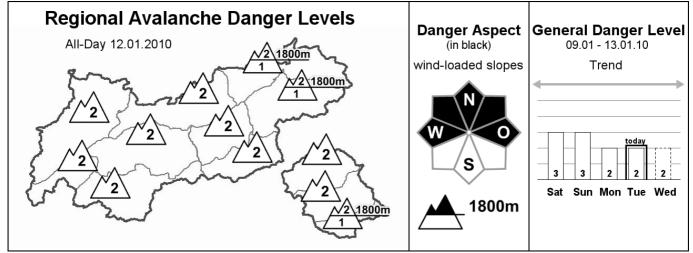
Avalanche Bulletin

of the Avalanche Warning Service Tyrol Tuesday, 12.01.2010, at 07:30





Moderate avalanche danger widespread - Beware new snowdrift accumulations

AVALANCHE DANGER

The avalance danger in Tyrol's backcountry touring regions is moderate widespread, but is expected to increase over the course of the day. The major hazard still stems from freshly formed and older snowdrift accumulations. Avalanche prone locations are to be found on wind loaded and steep slopes above approximately 1800 m, particularly in western to northern to eastern expositions. The danger zones become more frequent with increasing altitude. It is extremely difficult, however, to recognize the high hazard spots, since snowdrift accumulations have been blanketed by new fallen snow. Beware: especially in high alpine regions, the southwesterly winds can become strong today. This will lead to newly formed snowdrift masses which will escalate the avalanche danger level somewhat.

SNOW LAYERING

Over the last 24 hours it has snowed repeatedly in Tyrol, although there was seldom more than 10 cm. New fallen snow and older snowdrift accumulations blanket an old snowpack of highly irregular character: the distribution varies enormously, due to winds; and the old snowpack consists of an assembly of harder crusts interspersed with loosely packed layers embedded throughout. At low and intermediate altitudes in particular, the snow depths are below average throughout Tyrol. Beware: the southwesterly wind, as it increases in velocity today, will cause new snowdrift accumulations which will be very poorly bonded with the old snow surface.

ALPINE WEATHER FORECAST (ZAMG-WEATHER SERVICE INNSBRUCK)

Weather: after the current disturbance passes, the residual humidity will quickly dissolve, the air masses will turn warmer. Dominated by a low over the Atlantic, the next weak front will reach Tyrol tomorrow. Mountain weather today: visibility will soon be sharply reduced in high alpine regions due to residual fog, from which light snowfall can be expected during the morning hours. In the afternoon, visibility will improve significantly in the mountains of North Tyrol; from the Main Alpine Ridge and south thereof, the sun will be in the background of small amounts of snowfall from time to time. Temperature at 2000 m: minus 10 to minus 5 degrees; at 3000 m: minus 12 degrees. A moderate southwesterly wind which will become much stronger over the course of the day in high alpine regions and areas subject to foehn wind influence in particular.

SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

Generally moderate avalanche danger continues.

Rudi Mair

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe





