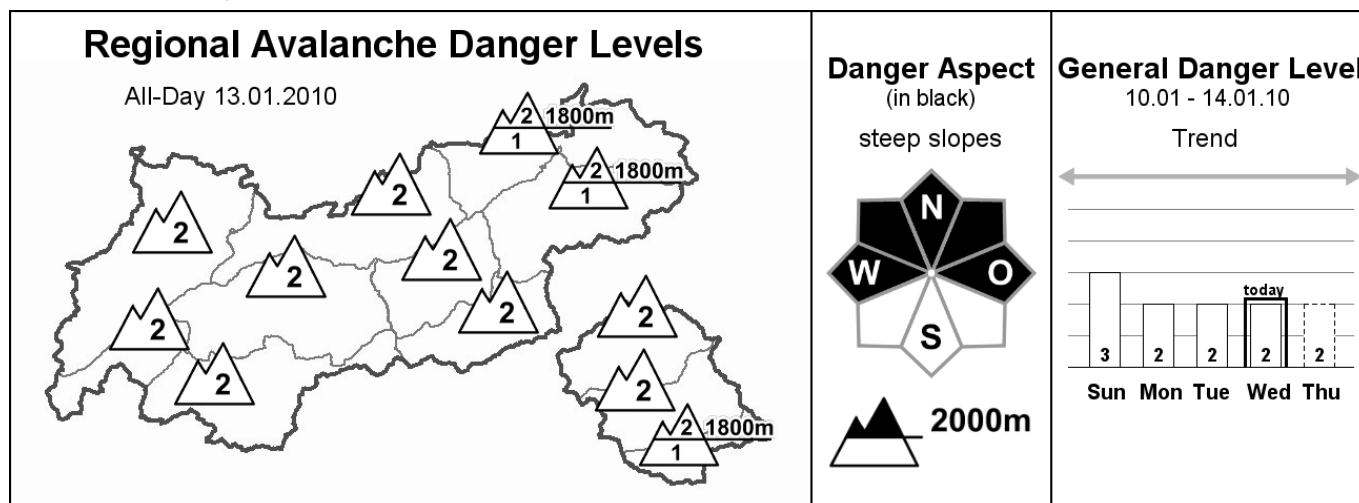


Avalanche Bulletin

of the Avalanche Warning Service Tyrol

Wednesday, 13.01.2010, at 07:30



Above 2000 m, generally moderate avalanche danger

AVALANCHE DANGER

The avalanche danger in Tyrol's backcountry touring regions is predominantly moderate. Avalanche prone locations are to be found primarily on steep west to north to east facing slopes above approximately 2000 m. Snowdrift accumulations in particular can be easily triggered. Due to the shallow snow depths, avalanches which are released are usually small sized. The transition areas from shallow to deep snow must be assessed with great care, since avalanches can be triggered inside the old snowpack in these areas. The light snowfall which is forecast will have little influence on the avalanche situation, the danger level is not expected to escalate significantly in the course of the day.

SNOW LAYERING

The new fallen snow from the most recent period of precipitation has settled and consolidated somewhat. Particularly in high alpine areas adjacent to ridge lines, however, yesterday's southwesterly winds were brisk, creating new snowdrift accumulations. At low and intermediate altitudes the snow depths are currently below average. In high alpine regions, snow depths vary enormously due to the winds: windblown ridges or knolls often lie immediately adjacent to deeply drifted gullies and bowls, creating a highly irregular snowpack. Inside the old snowpack, several hard crusts are embedded interspersed with faceted, loosely packed snow.

ALPINE WEATHER FORECAST (ZAMG-WEATHER SERVICE INNSBRUCK)

Weather: a low will sweep from southern France over the Mediterranean and bring a few snow flurries to North Tyrol, following the brief interim of foehn wind. As of Thursday, a weak high will make itself felt. Towards Sunday, the air current will shift to northwesterly and probably bring precipitation. The temperatures are typical for this juncture of the season. Mountain weather today: during the morning the peaks will be free of cloud, but the veil of high altitude clouds above the summits will increase in density over the course of the day. Visibility is often diffuse. In the afternoon, the high peaks in the western part of the Main Alpine Ridge will be shrouded in fog, light snowfall is anticipated. By tomorrow morning, 5 to 10 cm of snowfall is anticipated in the mountains. Temperature at 2000 m: minus 6 degrees; at 3000 m: minus 11 degrees. Stormy southwesterly to southerly winds to begin with in the Tux Alps, slackening off in the course of the day. Elsewhere brisk southwesterly to westerly winds.

SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

Ongoing moderate avalanche danger in general.

Rudi Mair

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe