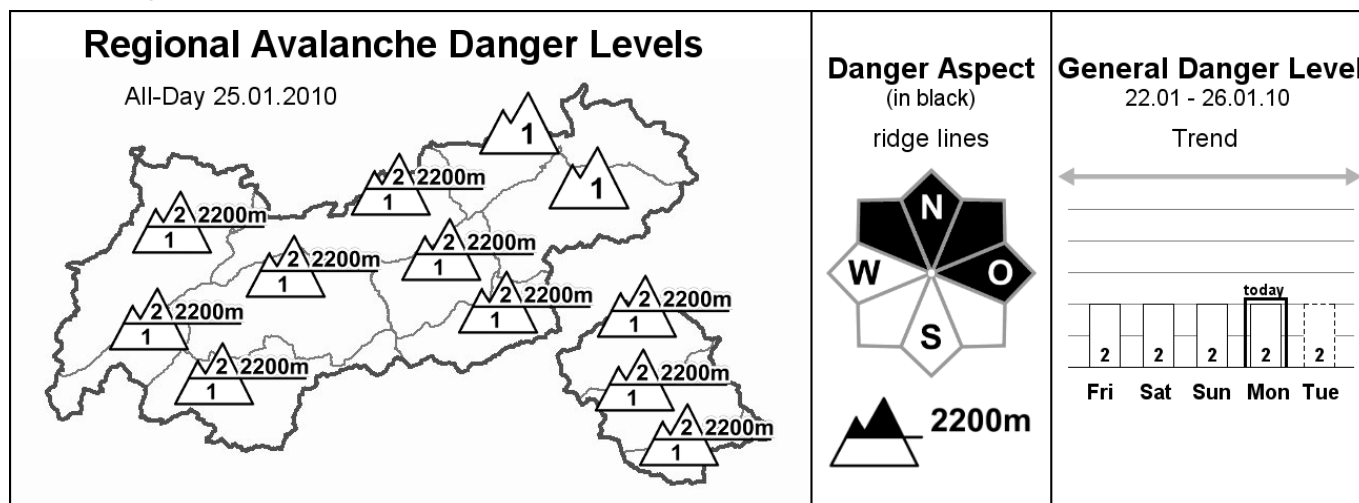


Avalanche Bulletin

of the Avalanche Warning Service Tyrol

Monday, 25.01.2010, at 07:30



Moderate avalanche danger widespread above 2200 m

AVALANCHE DANGER

The avalanche danger in Tyrol's backcountry touring regions is contingent upon altitude: below about 2200 m, the danger is low, above that altitude the danger is moderate. The major hazard stems from fresh, relatively small sized snowdrift accumulations which have formed repeatedly over the last week. Avalanche prone locations are to be found particularly in very steep areas adjacent to ridge lines and on steep slopes in northwestern to northern to eastern exposition. The released snow masses tend to be relatively small. Caution is required in the transition areas from shallow to deep snow, since backcountry skiers and freeriders could release avalanches inside the old snowpack.

SNOW LAYERING

At low and intermediate altitudes the snowpack is now low in tensions. The snow depths are below average. In high alpine regions, several hardened melt freeze crusts are embedded inside the old snowpack, which, due to the persistent wintery conditions and temperatures have become quite thin, the snowpack itself ever more loosely packed. Surface hoar is increasingly evident. All in all, the distribution of snow in open terrain is highly varied, even over small surface areas; windblown spots are often found immediately adjacent to deeply drifted gullies and bowls.

ALPINE WEATHER FORECAST (ZAMG-WEATHER SERVICE INNSBRUCK)

Weather: weather disturbances are expected from the north tomorrow. Following an intermediate high on Wednesday, low pressure weather conditions will dominate again as of Thursday, accompanied by winter weather conditions. Mountain weather today: relatively light winds with diffuse visibility. The northern Limestone Alps may become shrouded in fog down to lower altitudes in the course of the day, elsewhere the peaks will enjoy clear skies. Temperatures are expected to recede slightly. Temperature at 2000 m: down to minus 6 degrees; at 3000 m: down to minus 11 degrees. Light westerly to southwesterly winds at high altitudes.

SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

A bit of snowfall will hardly change the avalanche situation.

Rudi Mair

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe