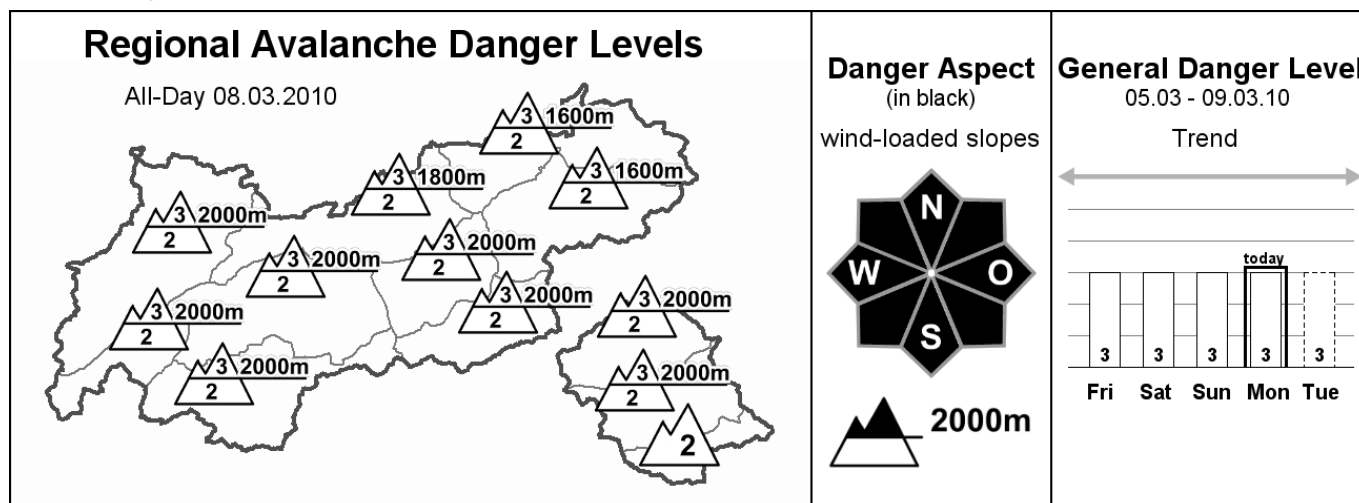


Avalanche Bulletin

of the Avalanche Warning Service Tyrol

Monday, 08.03.2010, at 07:30



Considerable avalanche danger above 2000 m widespread

AVALANCHE DANGER

The avalanche danger in Tyrol's backcountry touring regions is considerable widespread above approximately 2000 m. Avalanche prone locations are to be found on wind loaded slopes and in areas adjacent to ridge lines in all expositions. Above all else, freshly formed snowdrift accumulations can be easily triggered, even by minimum additional loading, i.e. the weight of a single skier or freerider. On unfrequented routes great restraint is called for. The situation on heavily frequented routes is more favourable. Due to the very cold, dry air only isolated naturally triggered avalanches are expected today.

SNOW LAYERING

The snowdrift accumulations from the last period of precipitation are brittle due to the low temperatures, making them prone to triggering. Moreover, the bonding of the surface layers of the snowpack to the old snowpack is generally poor. Caution is urged ongoingly towards the unusually poor snow layering this winter: the base consists predominantly of faceted, unbonded snow crystals, often interspersed with relatively thin, hardened crusts. On sun bathed slopes up to about 2400 m, a thin melt freeze crust has formed in many places which has a stabilising effect.

ALPINE WEATHER FORECAST (ZAMG-WEATHER SERVICE INNSBRUCK)

Weather: wedged between a high pressure system over England and a low over southern Italy, Tyrol is at the center of an easterly air current which will keep the mountains cold and dry until tomorrow. As of mid-week, the current will shift towards southeasterly and become more moist, lifting the temperatures somewhat. Mountain weather today: icy cold, but very sunny winter sports weather. The dry air guarantees magnificent visibility from the summits, the snow will remain powdery because of the cold. Temperature at 2000 m: minus 13 degrees; at 3000 m: minus 21 degrees. Light to moderate northeasterly winds at high altitudes.

SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

The avalanche danger will recede only gradually.

Rudi Mair

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe