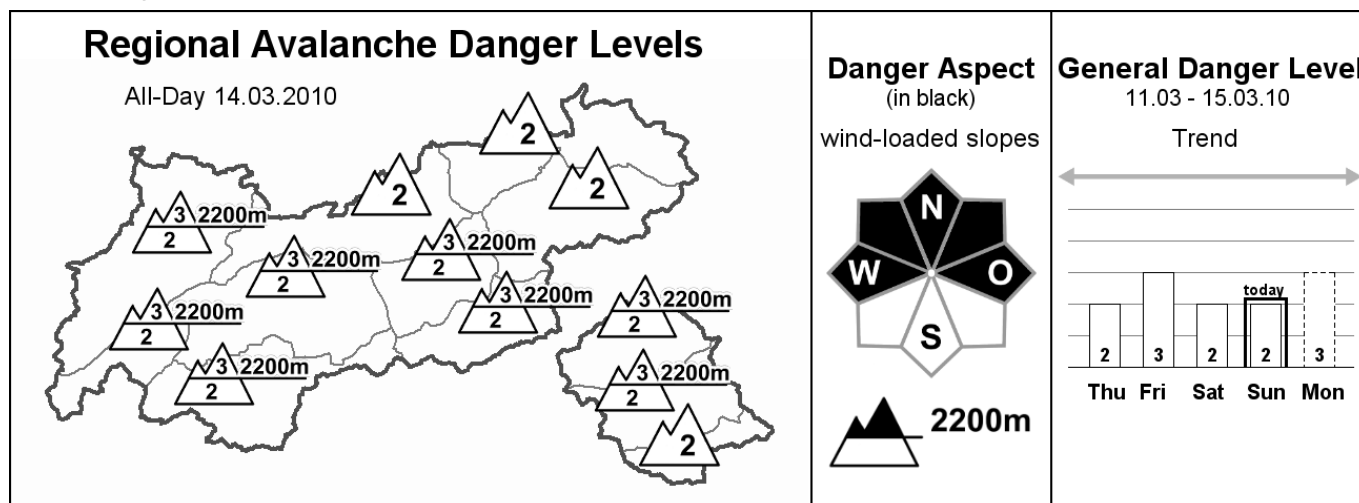


Avalanche Bulletin

of the Avalanche Warning Service Tyrol

Sunday, 14.03.2010, at 07:30



Avalanche danger is generally moderate, above 2200 m considerable in some regions

AVALANCHE DANGER

The avalanche danger in Tyrol's backcountry touring regions has receded to moderate in general, although above approximately 2200 m it is still considerable regionally. Avalanche prone locations are to be found on southwest to north to southeast facing wind loaded and steep slopes. In particular freshly formed and older snowdrift accumulations can be released as avalanches widespread even by minimum additional loading, including the weight of a single backcountry skier or snowboarder. Extreme caution is urged on steep, seldom frequented or unfrequented touring routes. Heavily frequented routes are more favourable.

SNOW LAYERING

The hallmark of the snowpack this winter is that it is highly varied, even across small surface areas: both snow depth and snow firmness shift drastically from meter to meter, as does the snowpack structure at the surface. The fundament is weak widespread, consisting predominantly of faceted and thus, loosely packed snow crystals; atop this trigger sensitive base lie snowdrift accumulations of varying depths, which can still be easily triggered as avalanches. On steeper, sun bathed slopes, the surface softens up during the late morning, depending on solar radiation.

ALPINE WEATHER FORECAST (ZAMG-WEATHER SERVICE INNSBRUCK)

Weather: clouds from Bavaria are still streaming against the northern flank of the Alps. This coming week begins with two bouts of precipitation from the northwest. As of mid-week, the air current will shift to westerly, and warmer Atlantic air masses will follow in its wake. Mountain weather today: south of the Main Alpine Ridge it is sunny. Even in the Stubai and Ötztal Alps it should be sunny for longer periods today, before the clouds begin to dominate. In the western Northern Alps and on the Main Alpine Ridge east of the Brenner, intermittently sunny, then clouds will move in from the north. In the Northern Alps east of the Karwendel, often heavily overcast and intermittent light snowfall. Temperature at 2000 m: minus 10 to minus 6 degrees; at 3000 m: minus 12 degrees. Moderate northwesterly to westerly winds.

SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

Avalanche danger will increase with snowfall.

Rudi Mair

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe