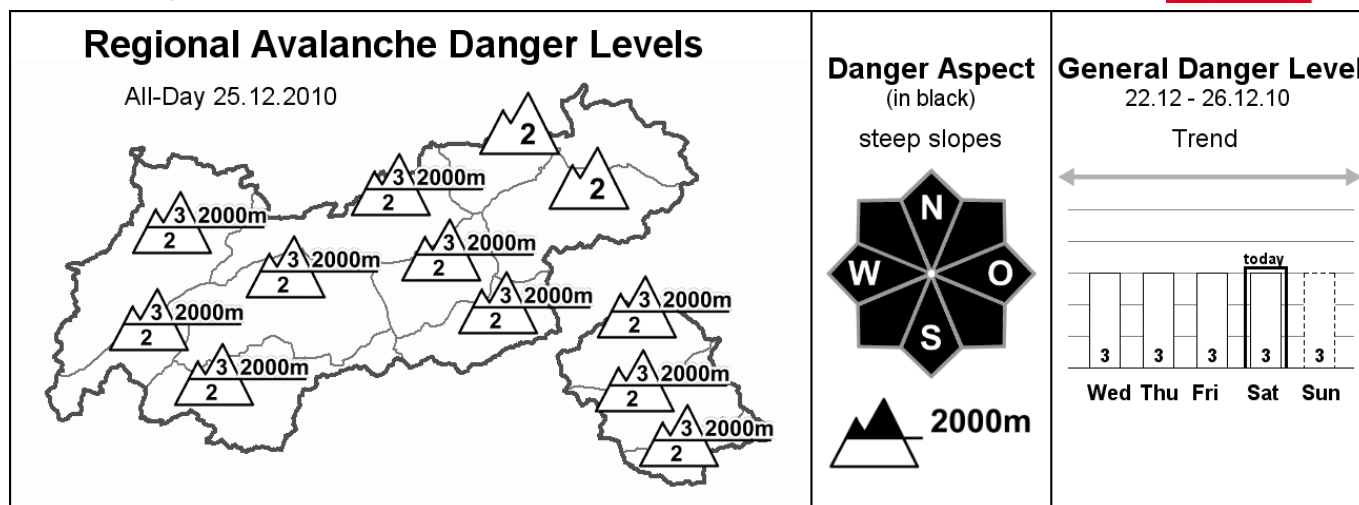


Avalanche Bulletin

of the Avalanche Warning Service Tyrol

Saturday, 25.12.2010, at 07:30



Moderate danger at low and intermediate altitudes, considerable danger in some high alpine regions

AVALANCHE DANGER

The avalanche danger level in Tyrol's backcountry touring regions has receded appreciably at low and intermediate altitudes, generally reaching the level "moderate". Above approximately 2000 m, however, the slab avalanche danger is still considerable from region to region. Avalanche prone locations are to be found on steep slopes in all expositions. Fresh and older snowdrift accumulations, which are now blanketed over with new fallen snow, can be triggered as avalanches even by minimum additional loading in some places, i.e. the weight of a single backcountry skier or freerider. Due to the consolidation of the snowpack at low and intermediate altitudes, naturally triggered full depth snowslides and wet sluffs are now unlikely.

SNOW LAYERING

Towards midnight, temperatures began to drop rapidly, the rainfall changed to snowfall even at low and intermediate altitudes. In high alpine regions, there has been 10 to 20 cm of snowfall over the last 24 hours. At low and intermediate altitudes, the drop in temperature is having a positive effect, since the snowpack was thoroughly wet due to the mild temperatures and rainfall of recent days and had lost much of its firmness. In high alpine regions, only isolated, small snowdrift accumulations have formed afresh; however caution is urged, since the new fallen snow has covered over older snowdrift masses, making them difficult to recognize in open terrain.

ALPINE WEATHER FORECAST (ZAMG-WEATHER SERVICE INNSBRUCK)

Weather: a low over the Adriatic is supplying Tyrol with cold, moist air masses today. Tomorrow, Boxing Day, a high will slowly assume control. A weak high will then dominate over the next few days, intermittently penetrated by cloud cover. Mountain weather today: it will be icy cold in the mountains, with repeated, light to moderate snowfall. South of the Main Alpine Ridge, the snow will be interrupted increasingly often this afternoon. All in all, 5 to 10 cm of snowfall is generally expected, in the Lower Inn Valley up to 15 cm. Temperature at 2000 m: minus 10 to minus 15 degrees; at 3000 m: minus 12 to minus 16 degrees and falling. Light to moderate high altitude winds from varying directions.

SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

Moderate danger below 2000 m, considerable danger regionally above that altitude.

Rudi Mair

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe