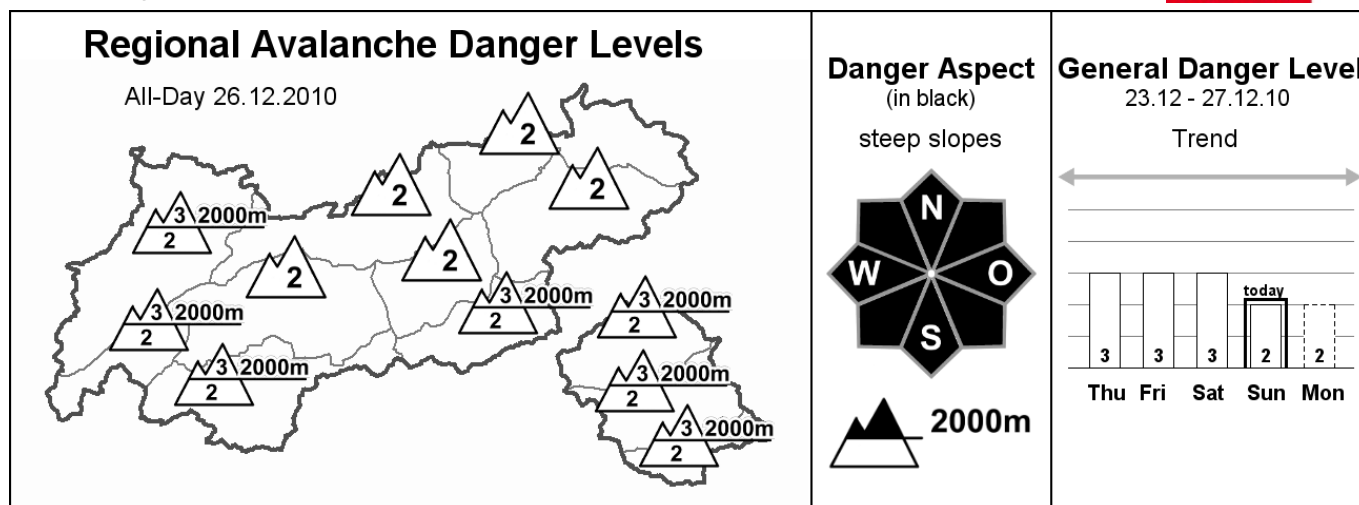


Avalanche Bulletin

of the Avalanche Warning Service Tyrol

Sunday, 26.12.2010, at 07:30



Widespread moderate danger, still some considerable danger in high alpine regions

AVALANCHE DANGER

The avalanche danger level in Tyrol's backcountry touring regions has subsided a bit further, down to moderate widespread. The situation above approximately 2000 m is somewhat less favourable from place to place, due to trigger sensitive snowdrift accumulations now mostly covered over by new fallen snow, making them very difficult to recognize. Avalanche prone locations are to be found on steep slopes in all expositions; particularly along the Main Alpine Ridge and in the Arlberg/Ausserfern regions, avalanches can still be triggered by minimum additional loading. Below about 2000 m, naturally triggered avalanches are no longer likely, since the snowpack has stabilised.

SNOW LAYERING

Over the last 24 hours there has been 10 to 15 cm of snowfall widespread in Tyrol. High altitude winds from varying directions have been light to moderate; this in turn has given rise to no pronounced new snowdrifting. However, in high alpine regions the older snowdrift accumulations are now blanketed over by fresh fallen snow. At low and intermediate altitudes, the temperatures have dropped by 10 to 15 degrees; this has brought about a significant consolidation of the snowpack, which previously was thoroughly wet. Least favourable is the snowpack between 1800 and 2300 m, where there are several layers of loosely packed, unbonded snow crystals interspersed in the snowpack which could serve as bed surfaces for avalanches.

ALPINE WEATHER FORECAST (ZAMG-WEATHER SERVICE INNSBRUCK)

Weather: an intermediate high is moving towards the Alps from the west. At the beginning of next week, a mild northerly current will bring us higher temperatures and intermittently dense cloudbanks. Mountain weather today: get dressed warmly, it is very cold in the mountains. The day will begin with a few final snow flurries. In the furthestmost western regions, it will brighten up by midday and then turn sunny. In the course of the afternoon, conditions will become pleasant in the other regions as well, although the southeastern regions will be too late to get any sunshine. Temperature at 2000 m: between minus 16 degrees in the Northern Alps and minus 10 degrees in the Dolomites; at 3000 m: between minus 20 and minus 16 degrees. Light northerly winds, at high altitudes of moderate velocity.

SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

Slowly receding avalanche danger.

Rudi Mair

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe