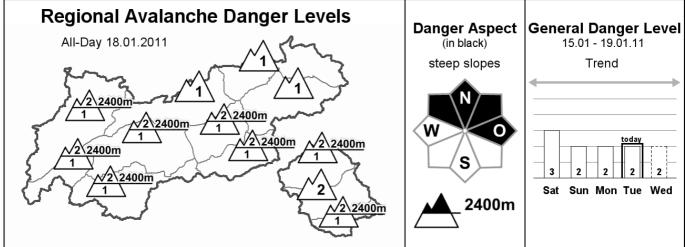
Avalanche Bulletin

of the Avalanche Warning Service Tyrol Tuesday, 18.01.2011, at 07:30





Generally favourable conditions amid moderate danger above 2400 m

AVALANCHE DANGER

Backcountry touring conditions in Tyrol's outlying terrain are predominantly favourable. The avalanche danger level below about 2400 m is usually low, above that altitude it is moderate. Avalanche prone locations are still to be found primarily on northwest to north to east facing steep slopes and areas adjacent to ridge lines above 2400 m. Triggering an avalanche is ordinarily possible only through large additional loading, i.e. from a group of backcountry skiers without sufficient spacing between them. The transition areas from deep to shallow snow still require special caution. Below about 2400 m again today, isolated naturally triggered full depth snowslides and moist sluffs are likely.

SNOW LAYERING

Particularly at low and intermediate altitudes, the snowpack has more or less stabilised, due to the mild daytime temperatures followed by clear, cold nights. Up as high as 2400 m - on steep, sunny slopes even higher - the surface is often covered by a melt-freeze crust capable of bearing loads. In high alpine regions, the snowpack is far more irregular: breakable crusts, wind-influenced snow and in some places still loosely packed, dry powder are all evident, alternatingly. Particularly on shady slopes near ridge lines and on steep slopes, there are in some places still relatively small sized snowdrift accumulations which are prone to triggering.

ALPINE WEATHER FORECAST (ZAMG-WEATHER SERVICE INNSBRUCK)

Weather: the influence of the dominant high is waning. As of tomorrow, cold and moderately moist air masses will flow from the north to Tyrol, the snowfall level will drop down to the valleys, creating a cold north barrier cloud effect until Friday. On Saturday, seen from today's perspective, an intermediate high will prevail, followed by the next turbulences on Sunday and Monday. Mountain weather today: lots of sunshine in Tyrol's mountains until this afternoon. Generally very little cloud, towards the Lower Inn Valley it will be cloudless in many places. Freezing level at 2000 m. By this evening, clouds will move in from the west, during the night tonight clouds will take possession of the sky from the north. Temperatures will drop significantly. Temperature at 2000 m: zero degrees; at 3000 m: minus 6 degrees. Moderate to brisk westerly to southwesterly winds at high altitudes.

SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

Slightly rising avalanche danger, due to snowfall.

Rudi Mair

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe

