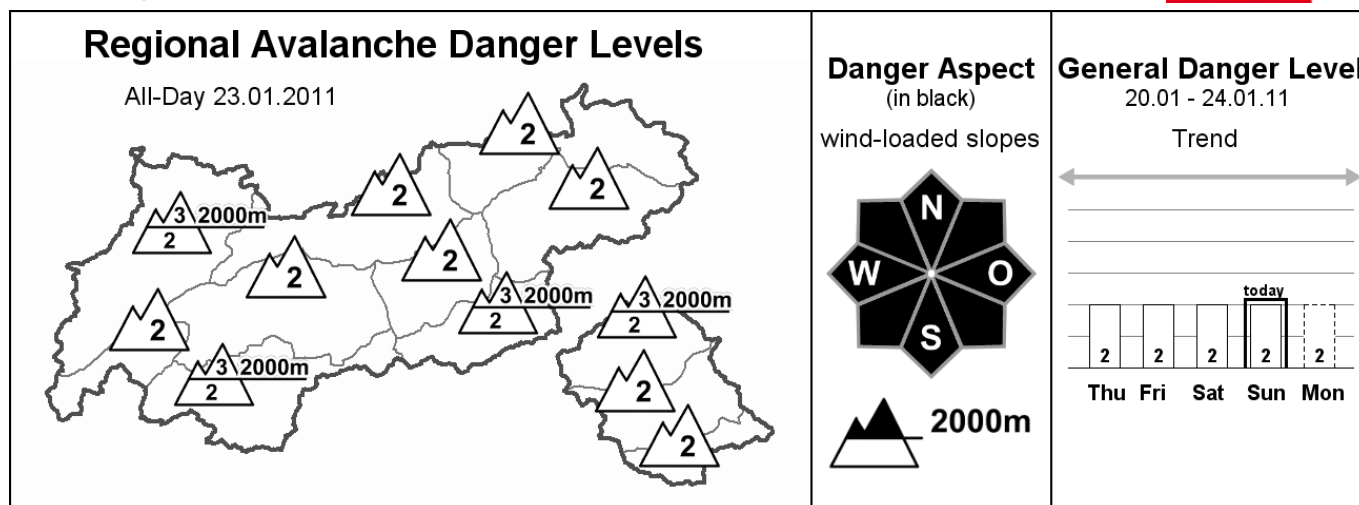


Avalanche Bulletin

of the Avalanche Warning Service Tyrol

Sunday, 23.01.2011, at 07:30



Moderate avalanche danger far and wide

AVALANCHE DANGER

The avalanche danger level in Tyrol is by and large moderate. Avalanche prone locations are to be found primarily on wind loaded slopes and in areas adjacent to ridge lines in all expositions above approximately 2000 m. Freshly formed, relatively small sized snowdrift accumulations are brittle; thus, they can often be triggered as avalanches by even minimum additional loading. Depending on the degree of solar radiation, naturally triggered, superficial, loosely packed snow avalanches can be expected on south to southeast facing slopes in isolated cases.

SNOW LAYERING

The cold, loosely packed new fallen snow of the last few days has been transported by the northeasterly winds, particularly in high alpine areas adjacent to ridge lines. This has given rise to freshly formed, relatively small sized snowdrift accumulations. The snow depths, especially in North Tyrol, are currently way below long term averages. At low and intermediate altitudes, fresh fallen snow and snowdrift now blanket over an old snowpack surface which, at least on the uppermost surface, has a melt freeze crust covering it. In high alpine regions, the surface has either been hard compacted by wind or (in wind protected areas) is loosely packed. Due to the low temperatures, the freshly formed snowdrift accumulations are brittle and thus, can be triggered relatively easily.

ALPINE WEATHER FORECAST (ZAMG-WEATHER SERVICE INNSBRUCK)

Weather: a high centered over the British Isles will bring quite dry and cold air masses to the Alps from the north today. On Monday, a weak disturbance embedded inside this air current will brush the eastern parts of North Tyrol. Mountain weather today: the mountains and the ski resorts have a lot of sunshine on offer today, plus good visibility. However, it remains cold. In the course of the afternoon, high cloudbanks from the northeast may gradually move in and cover the sun. Temperature at 2000 m: minus 14, rising to minus 10 degrees; at 3000 m: minus 16, rising to minus 13 degrees. Moderate northeasterly winds at high altitudes.

SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

The predominantly moderate avalanche danger will continue.

Rudi Mair

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe