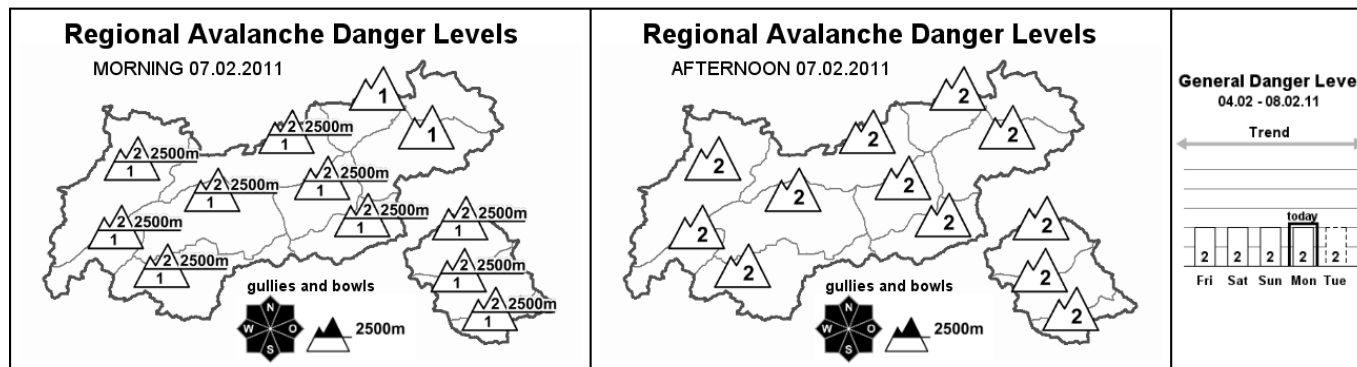


Avalanche Bulletin

of the Avalanche Warning Service Tyrol

Monday, 07.02.2011, at 07:30



Rising avalanche danger over the course of the day

AVALANCHE DANGER

Springlike conditions prevail in Tyrol's backcountry touring regions, accompanied by a rise in avalanche danger through the daytime warming cycle: the danger level is generally low in the early morning hours, as of late morning it will be moderate widespread. Above approximately 2500 m, freshly formed and older snowdrift accumulations should be evaluated with great care. The avalanche prone locations are in snowdrifted gullies and bowls and in areas adjacent to ridge lines in all expositions. They tend to be small sized, are usually easy to recognize, thus can be circumvented. Below 2500 m, the daytime increase in avalanche danger should be heeded. From late morning on intensely sun-bathed slopes, moist sluffs and small sized wet snow avalanches can be expected, full depth snowslides can also occur in isolated cases.

SNOW LAYERING

The snow depths are currently below average throughout Tyrol. The mild temperatures augment the snow melt still further. In high alpine regions, the snowpack surface is irregular and highly varied even over small areas: hard, wind-compacted surfaces often lie adjacent to breakable crusts. In wind protected zones, there is still loosely packed powder snow. Snowdrift masses are to be found primarily in areas near ridge lines and in drifted gullies and bowls. At low and intermediate altitudes, the snowpack is subjected to ample outgoing, long wave radiation during the clear, cold nights, which brings about a crust capable of bearing loads by morning. Later in the morning, the snowpack rapidly forfeits its firmness through daytime warming and solar radiation, which increases its proneness to triggering.

ALPINE WEATHER FORECAST (ZAMG-WEATHER SERVICE INNSBRUCK)

Weather in general: a high, with its centre over the Mediterranean, dominates the weather in the Alps. On Tuesday, a disturbance extending from the Atlantic over the North Sea all the way to the Black Sea will move nearer to Tyrol from Germany. Mountain weather today: maximum sunshine accompanied by light, southwesterly foehn winds. Visibility is outstanding, freezing level above 3000 m, just like in springtime. Temperature at 2000 m: between plus 7 and plus 10 degrees; at 3000 m: plus 2 degrees. Generally light southwesterly winds at high altitudes this morning, increasing to moderate velocity this afternoon.

SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

As temperatures drop slightly, the danger of moist sluffs will recede.

Rudi Mair

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe