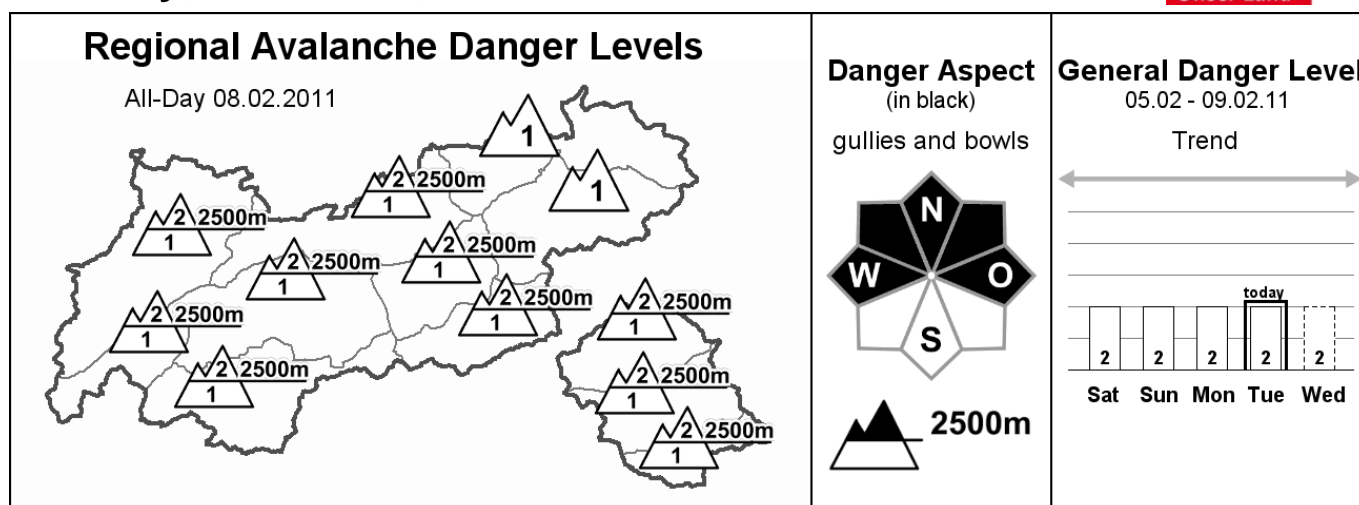


Avalanche Bulletin

of the Avalanche Warning Service Tyrol

Tuesday, 08.02.2011, at 07:30



Below 2500 m, low avalanche danger; above that altitude, moderate danger

AVALANCHE DANGER

The avalanche danger level in Tyrol's backcountry touring regions is by and large contingent on altitude: below 2500 m, the danger is low; above that altitude, it is moderate widespread. Avalanche prone locations are to be found in snowdrifted gullies and bowls as well as areas adjacent to ridge lines above approximately 2500 m, particularly in western to northern to eastern exposition. Trigger sensitive snowdrift masses are generally small sized and can be easily recognized in open terrain. Below 2500 m, the snowpack will lose some of its firmness as of midday, making caution imperative: in isolated cases, moist sluffs and small wet avalanches may result.

SNOW LAYERING

The snowpack is decreasing in tensions even in high alpine regions. Older, relatively small sized snowdrift masses are to be found primarily in drifted gullies and bowls as well as in areas adjacent to ridge lines in general. The snowpack surface is irregular and highly varied: hard, wind-compacted snow alternates with breakable crusts and, in wind protected zones, loosely packed powder. At low and intermediate altitudes, the persistently mild temperatures are diminishing the below average snow depths still further. During the cold, clear nights, there is sufficient outgoing radiation to form a melt freeze crust by dawn, which is often capable of bearing loads. The crust transforms to firn during the morning hours, then the snowpack again forfeits its firmness.

ALPINE WEATHER FORECAST (ZAMG-WEATHER SERVICE INNSBRUCK)

Weather in general: Tyrol lies on the northern rim of a high over the Mediterranean, with a temporary disturbance approaching today from Bavaria. The high pressure zone will dominate weather conditions until Thursday, thereafter it will be weakened by disturbances coming from northern Europe. Mountain weather today: visibility and general sunniness will be unimpeded. During the day, temperatures will drop in North Tyrol's mountains by about 6 degrees; particularly in the Northern Alps and the high altitude zones of the Main Alpine Ridge, it can also turn quite windy. Temperature at 2000 m: dropping from plus 5 to minus 2 degrees; at 3000 m: from 0 decreasing to minus 6 degrees. Brisk southwesterly winds at high altitudes, later shifting to northwesterly.

SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

No significant change in the avalanche situation.

Rudi Mair

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe