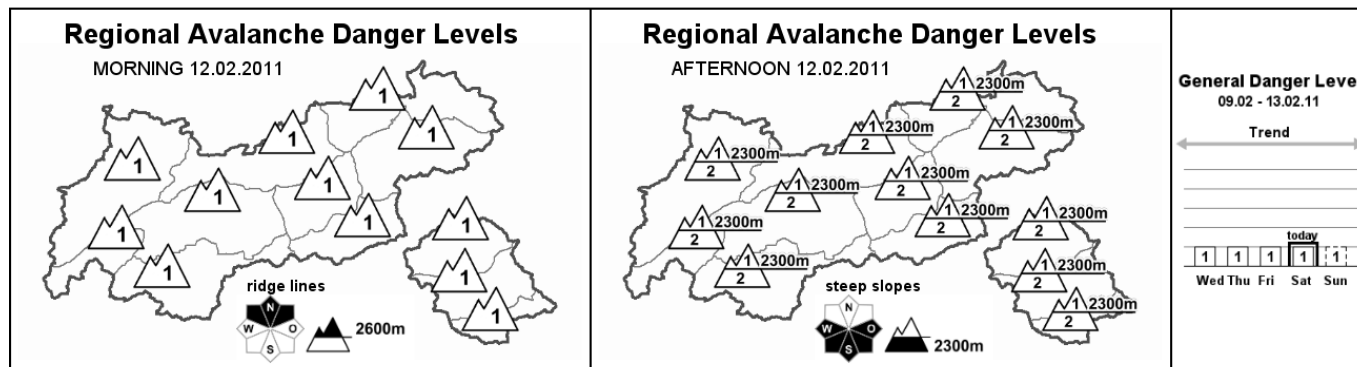


Avalanche Bulletin

of the Avalanche Warning Service Tyrol

Saturday, 12.02.2011, at 07:30



Avalanche situation continues to be favourable – Slight danger increase below about 2300 m during th

AVALANCHE DANGER

The avalanche danger level is low throughout Tyrol, but below about 2300 m will escalate somewhat over the course of the day. Caution is urged towards small sized, older snowdrift accumulations, particularly in shady, extremely steep terrain above approximately 2300 m. Such danger zones are generally easy to recognize; their frequency tends to increase somewhat with ascending altitude. Caution in these zones is also necessary towards the perils of falling. At intermediate altitudes where there is more snow, isolated full depth snowslides are possible on steep, grass covered slopes. Such slide dangers are usually indicated by glide cracks, so they cannot be overlooked. As the snowpack becomes increasingly moist, small, moist sluffs are possible this afternoon below about 2300 m.

SNOW LAYERING

The snowpack was superficially moist up to 2300 m yesterday. During the night, a generally thin, brittle, in isolated cases load-bearing melt freeze crust formed, which during the course of the day today will soften up again up to about the same altitude. Thus, the snowpack will forfeit some of its firmness. In general, the snowpack surface is irregular and highly varied. Good powder snow can currently be found only very seldom, especially in shady, wind protected zones above 2300 m. Elsewhere, there are often melt freeze crusts at higher altitudes, although the snowpack itself usually consists of faceted crystals.

ALPINE WEATHER FORECAST (ZAMG-WEATHER SERVICE INNSBRUCK)

Weather in general: Tyrol lies between one low, with its center over eastern Europe, and another low, with its center over the Atlantic. A weak disturbance will brush past with its cloudbanks. Mountain weather today: particularly towards the eastern regions, visibility will be impeded by clouds traversing the land, but the peaks will generally remain cloudless. More sunshine is expected in the western part of the Main Alpine Ridge; lots of sunshine is anticipated between the Ortler and southern Dolomites. The freezing level is about 2000 m, the wind will slacken off. Temperature at 2000 m: zero degrees; at 3000 m: minus 6 degrees. Strong northwesterly winds to begin with, which will taper off during the day.

SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

Temperatures will drop, thus slightly stabilising the snowpack at low and intermediate altitudes.

Patrick Nairz

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe