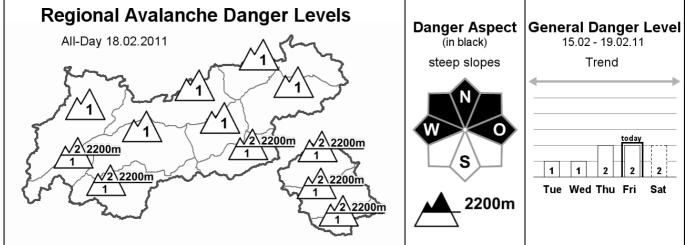
Avalanche Bulletin

of the Avalanche Warning Service Tyrol Friday, 18.02.2011, at 07:30





Generally low avalanche danger; moderate on Main Alpine Ridge and in East Tyrol

AVALANCHE DANGER

The avalanche danger level in Tyrol's backcountry touring regions is low widespread. Along the Main Alpine Ridge and in East Tyrol, the danger level is moderate. Avalanche prone locations are to be found on steep, west to north to east facing slopes and in snowdrifted gullies and bowls above approximately 2200 m. The frequency of danger zones becomes higher with ascending altitude. The snowdrift masses are often blanketed over with a few centimeters of new fallen snow, making the hazard especially difficult to recognize.

SNOW LAYERING

Over the last 24 hours there has been only minimum snowfall. Overall, the snow depths throughout Tyrol are far below average. At low and intermediate altitudes, the snowpack is well settled and consolidated in general, on the surface a melt freeze crust prevails widespread. In high alpine regions, the old snowpack surface tends to be irregular and varied: hard, wind compacted surfaces alternate with breakable crusts, followed in many places by faceted, loosely packed snow. Along the Main Alpine Ridge and in East Tyrol, the old snowpack surface is now covered over by freshly formed, small sized snowdrift accumulations.

ALPINE WEATHER FORECAST (ZAMG-WEATHER SERVICE INNSBRUCK)

Weather in general: a low pressure zone over Italy will make itself felt today, and leave moist air masses in its wake at lower altitudes in North Tyrol. The high altitude air current will shift to northwesterly, favouring southern regions in its lee, weatherwise. A weak high/low will traverse North Tyrol during the night tonight, which will activate the moist air masses near the ground. On Sunday, the next disturbance is expected. Mountain weather today:quite sunny above the high fog in North Tyrol's mountains; this afternoon, high altitude clouds will move in and veil the high summits. Towards evening, a bit of light snowfall is possible. The southern flank of the Alps is much sunnier. Temperature at 2000 m: between minus 5 and minus 3 degrees; at 3000 m: minus 10 degrees. Light northwesterly winds at high altitude.

SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

No significant change in the avalanche situation

Rudi Mair

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe

