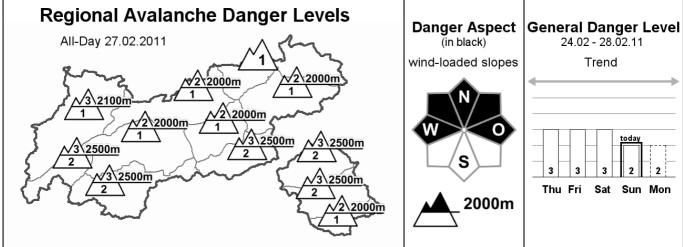
Avalanche Bulletin

of the Avalanche Warning Service Tyrol Sunday, 27.02.2011, at 07:30





Considerable avalanche danger above 2500 m on Main Alpine Ridge and in northern Ausserfern

AVALANCHE DANGER

The avalanche danger has receded: the danger level is still considerable only above approximately 2500 m from the Silvretta over the southern Ötztal and Stubai Alps, the Zillertal Alps, East Tyrolean Tauern and central part of East Tyrol. The situation is less favourable in northern Ausserfern, where above approximately 2100 m the danger level is also considerable, due to a thin, weak layer having formed in the snowpack on Friday night on shady slopes, atop of the which new fallen snow can be easily triggered even by minimum additional loading. In Tyrol's remaining regions, the danger zones are concentrated onto very steep, west to north to east facing slopes above approximately 2200 m: namely, the recently formed snowdrift accumulations. They occur most frequently in areas adjacent to ridge lines, in gullies and in bowls and increase in number with ascending altitude. Below the treeline, low danger prevails.

SNOW LAYERING

Since late yesterday evening, it has been snowing in Tyrol. In the western regions, there has been about 10 cm until now. The wind is moderate, but is nonetheless transporting the new fallen snow at high altitude. There are currently two potential bed surfaces for slab avalanches: on shady slopes above approximately 2300 m a faceted layer of depth hoar lies atop the old snowpack surface; it covers usually small sized, yet cohesive surface areas, meaning that avalanches will typically attain only medium size. In northern Ausserfern, in addition, a thin ice lense has formed on shady slopes through very moist fog. Fresh snowdrift is poorly bonded with this layer.

ALPINE WEATHER FORECAST (ZAMG-WEATHER SERVICE INNSBRUCK)

Weather in general: a vast low pressure system extends from the North Sea over the western Alps and to the Mediterranean, bringing moist air masses to Tyrol. On Monday, its influence will subside. As of Tuesday, Tyrol will be dominated by a powerful high pressure system from the north, extending from the Atlantic Ocean to Russia. Mountain weather today: overcast, gloomy, foggy mountain weather conditions today. It will continue to snow widespread. This afternoon, the focal point of the snowfall will be in the Tauern and the Dolomites. Tonight during the night, further snow flurries can be expected. From the Ötztal Alps to the Hohe Tauern and the Dolomites, approximately 20 cm of fresh fallen snow is anticipated; in the Northern Alps, about 10 cm. Temperature at 2000 m: minus 6 degrees; at 3000 m: minus 13 degrees. Moderate to brisk northwesterly winds, gradually shifting to northerly/northeasterly.

SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

No immediate change of any significance in the avalanche situation

Patrick Nairz

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe





