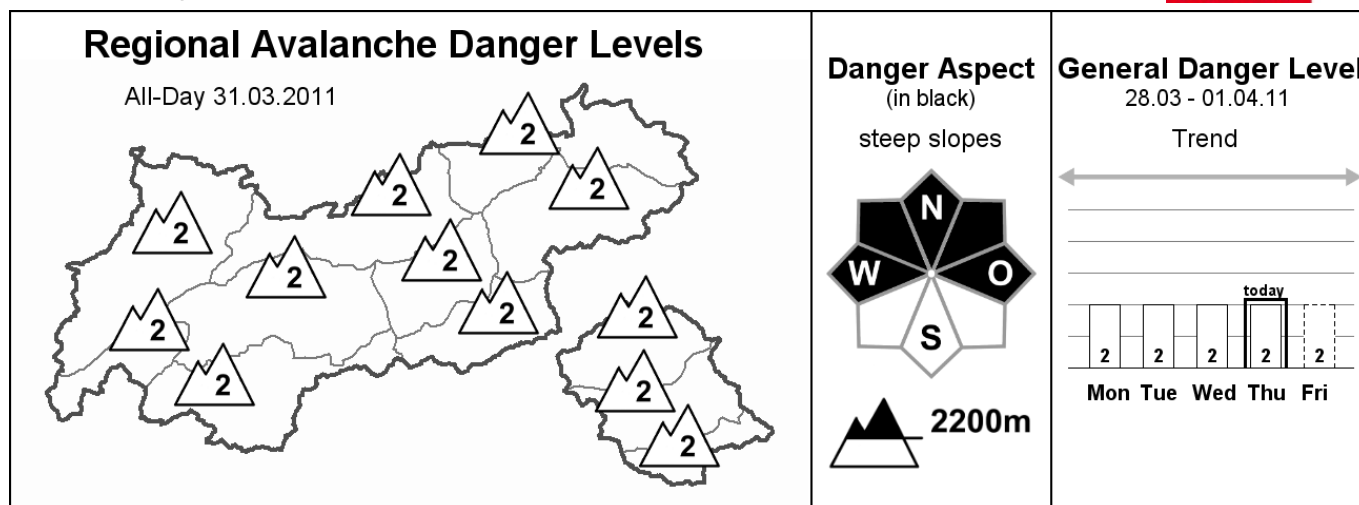


Avalanche Bulletin

of the Avalanche Warning Service Tyrol

Thursday, 31.03.2011, at 07:30



Moderate avalanche danger widespread

AVALANCHE DANGER

The avalanche danger level in Tyrol's backcountry touring regions is moderate far and wide. Avalanche prone locations for dry, slab avalanches are still to be found on steep, west to north to east facing slopes above approximately 2200 m. Triggering an avalanche is generally possible only through large additional loading. Below about 2600 m, the snowpack will lose its firmness during the morning hours, after which naturally triggered moist sluffs and wet snow avalanches are likely. For that reason, skiing and freeriding tours in outlying terrain should be brought to an end early in the day.

SNOW LAYERING

Last night was often cloudy, thus hindering the snowpack's outgoing long wave radiation. Thus, a melt freeze crust capable of bearing loads was formed only in isolated places. The snowpack is thoroughly wet up to intermediate altitudes, which makes it lose what firmness it has during the morning. In high alpine regions, caution towards steep, shady slopes above about 2200 m is urged: layers of faceted, loose crystals are embedded inside the old snowpack and could serve as a bed surface for avalanches.

ALPINE WEATHER FORECAST (ZAMG-WEATHER SERVICE INNSBRUCK)

Weather in general: Tyrol lies in a westerly air current, accompanied by repeated weak disturbances traversing the land. On the weekend, the high pressure system will increase in strength and temperatures will rise. Mountain weather today: the higher altitude mountain regions are partially shrouded in cloud, isolated showers are likely during the morning. As of midday, conditions will become more pleasant and it will remain dry. Temperatures are mild, the freezing level this afternoon will be 2400 m. Dry and sunny in the Southern Alps. Temperature at 2000 m: plus 2 degrees; at 3000 m: minus 6 degrees. Light to moderate westerly winds at high altitudes, increasing in strength this evening.

SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

Increasingly spring-like conditions, amidst daytime rise in danger.

Rudi Mair

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe