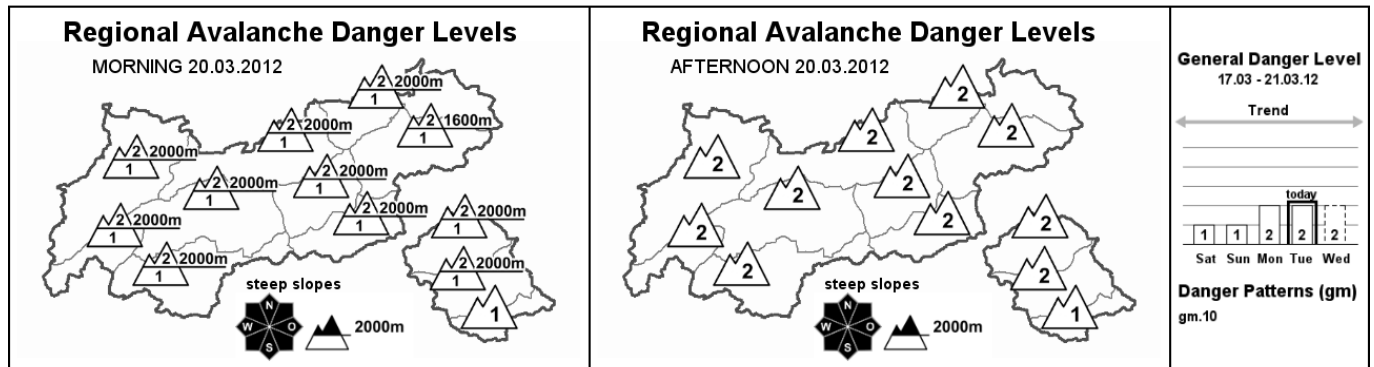


Avalanche Bulletin

of the Avalanche Warning Service Tyrol

Tuesday, 20.03.2012, at 07:30



Moderate danger of loosely packed, surface avalanches

AVALANCHE DANGER

Predominantly favourable conditions, accompanied by moderate avalanche danger, prevail in Tirol's backcountry touring regions. Avalanche prone locations for dry slab avalanches are to be found on steep slopes in all aspects above approximately 2000 m. Due to the stable snowpack, however, it is unlikely that the lower layers will be swept along, which limits the size of avalanches released. During the course of the day, the avalanche danger will rise somewhat: particularly on sun-drenched slopes the frequency of naturally triggered loosely packed avalanches and moist sluffs is expected to increase. In isolated cases, full depth snowslides are also still possible.

SNOW LAYERING

Over the last 24 hours in the Silvretta, along the Main Alpine Ridge and in inneralpine regions there has been as much as 30 cm of snowfall. In the remaining parts of North Tirol there was at least 5 to 10 cm of fresh fallen snow. Since the high altitude winds were only light to moderate, the new fallen snow was barely transported. Only in high alpine ridgeline areas did small snowdrift masses accumulate. Newly fallen and drifted snow have been deposited, for the most part, on top of the melt-freeze crust covering the old snowpack. The snowpack itself is solid and stable.

ALPINE WEATHER FORECAST (ZAMG-WEATHER SERVICE INNSBRUCK)

Weather in general: The high pressure system is increasing its influence, the air masses are becoming drier. This high will dominate in Tirol for the next few days, accompanied by light foehn winds; in southern regions the air will be moister. Weather developments over the weekend are still uncertain, but the high will probably weaken. Mountain weather today: Dense residual fog may impede visibility during the morning; above 1600 m there will be sunshine from the start. The high fogbanks will recede, some convective cloud will form on sunny slopes. In the Southern Alps, visibility will be diffuse as of midday, but the summits will remain clear. Temperature at 2000 m: between minus 4 and plus 2 degrees; at 3000 m: between minus 10 and minus 5 degrees. Moderate to brisk southerly winds.

SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

Springlike conditions, daytime rise in avalanche danger

Rudi Mair

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe