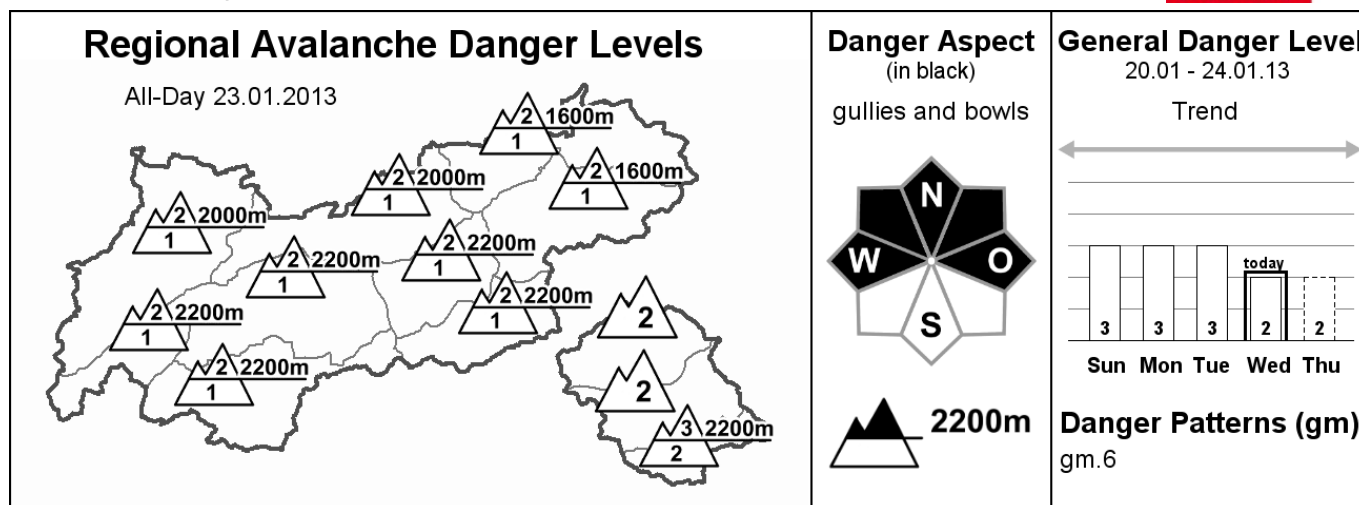


Avalanche Bulletin

of the Avalanche Warning Service Tyrol

Wednesday, 23.01.2013, at 07:30



Moderate avalanche danger widespread

AVALANCHE DANGER

The avalanche danger in Tyrol's backcountry touring regions is moderate widespread. The major peril stems from freshly formed and older snow drift accumulations which are to be found primarily in drifted gullies and bowls as well as in high alpine terrain near ridgelines, especially on west to north to east facing slopes. Also the transition areas from deep to shallow snow should be critically assessed. Some trigger sensitive snowdrift accumulations have been blanketed over by new fallen snow which makes them hard to recognize in open terrain.

SNOW LAYERING

The surface of the snowpack is currently heavily impacted by wind and for that reason is highly irregular even over small surface areas: hard compacted or windblown places right next to old or freshly drifted snow masses. The surface is frequently covered by a melt-freeze crust, but in some spots is loosely packed. By and large, the snow cover up to about 2000 m is well settled and stable. On shady slopes along the Main Alpine Ridge and in the inneralpine backcountry touring regions above about 2200 m, more than anywhere else, there are weak layers embedded inside the snowpack consisting of faceted, unbonded snow crystals.

ALPINE WEATHER FORECAST (ZAMG-WEATHER SERVICE INNSBRUCK)

Weather: The outer edge of a high pressure system over Scandinavia is bringing dry air masses our way today. Tomorrow a low over Italy will bring moist air masses from the south, while simultaneously cold air masses will stream towards us from the east. Over the weekend, a high will dominate. Mountain weather today: sunny weather conditions amidst light winds, frequently cloudless skies or only a small amount of cloud until past midday, then harmless high altitude cloud will move in above the summits. Tonight the cloud will increase and the wind shift to easterly to northeasterly. Temperature at 2000 m: minus 5 degrees; at 3000 m: minus 13 degrees. Light to moderate southerly to southwesterly winds, intermittently stronger in the Tux Alps.

SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

Predominantly moderate avalanche danger

Rudi Mair

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe