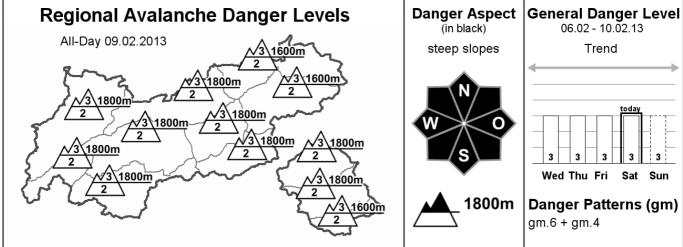
Avalanche Bulletin

of the Avalanche Warning Service Tyrol Saturday, 09.02.2013, at 07:30





Treacherous avalanche situation, considerable danger widespread

AVALANCHE DANGER

The avalanche situation in Tirol is treacherous, the danger level remains considerable far and wide. Above all else, the newly formed snowdrift masses which have accumulated over the course of the week have to be evaluated critically; they are often blanketed over by new fallen snow, making them difficult to recognize in open country. Avalanche prone locations are to be found on steep slopes and in ridgeline areas in all aspects, mainly above approximately 1800 m. Skiing and freeriding tours in outlying terrain currently require extensive experience in assessing avalanche hazards. Restraint on steep slopes is urgently advised! The situation below the tree line is more favourable, where the snowpack is stabler and the wind impact less.

SNOW LAYERING

Over the last 24 hours there has been an additional 10 to 15 cm of snowfall in the Silvretta, the Arlberg/Ausserfern region and along the Northern Alps. In inneralpine regions, along the Main Alpine Ridge and the East Tirolean Tauern Ridge there was generally 5 to 10 cm of fresh fallen snow. The northerly to northwesterly high altitude wind was blowing at only moderate velocity, but was strong enough in ridgeline areas to transport the new fallen snow which was very light and loose because of the cold. The snowdrift accumulations which then formed are brittle, making them prone to triggering. Attention: inside the old snowpack there are frequently weak layers of faceted, unbonded snow crystals, in particular at altitudes where there are also embedded rain crusts, i.e. between 1800 and 2300 m.

ALPINE WEATHER FORECAST (ZAMG-WEATHER SERVICE INNSBRUCK)

Weather: A cold front reaches from Scandinavia all the way to the Mediterranean. The Alps are being supplied moist and cold air masses from a northerly current. In North Tirol, snow clouds are caught in a barrier on the northern flanks. Tomorrow, Sunday, intermediate high pressure zone influence, on Monday a low from Italy will dominate. Mountain weather today: In the western and eastern sectors of the Northern Alps and in the Kitzbühel Alps, a further 5 to 10 cm of snowfall is anticipated today, often accompanied by poor visibility. Hardly any fresh fallen snow is expected from the Inn Valley to the Main Alpine Ridge and the Tauern, bright intervals will intermittently appear. No snowfall from the Ortler to the Lienz Dolomites, but occasional sunshine. Temperature at 2000 m: minus 14 degrees; at 3000 m: minus 22 degrees. Light to moderate northwesterly winds at high altitude, in the Dolomites the northerly winds will be strong.

SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

Ongoing considerable avalanche danger

Rudi Mair

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe