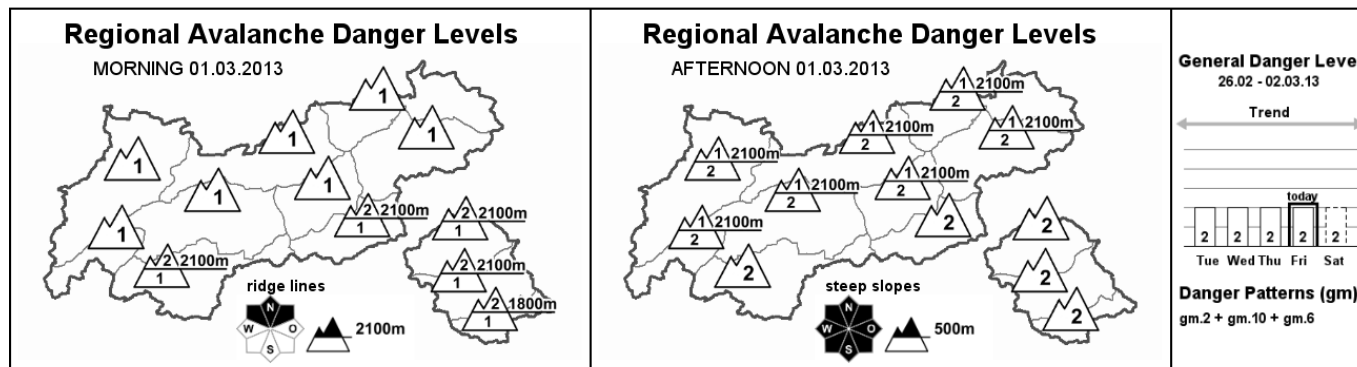


Avalanche Bulletin

of the Avalanche Warning Service Tyrol

Friday, 01.03.2013, at 07:30



Predominantly favourable conditions, slight daytime danger cycle

AVALANCHE DANGER

In Tirol quite favourable conditions reign, with a north-to-south gradient of danger levels. Least favourable is the situation in southern East Tirol where above 1800 m the danger level is moderate; below that altitude, low. In the remaining regions of East Tirol and in the Zillertal Alps, the southern Ötztal and Stubai Alps, the borderline between low and medium danger level is at 2100 m. Elsewhere the danger level is generally low. However, the hazards will increase at low and intermediate altitudes to moderate as of midday. Small, isolated medium sized wet, loosely packed avalanches are expected today from craggy, sun-bathed terrain. Due to the intensifying warming and moistening of the snowpack, full depth snowslides may become more frequent on steep, grassy slopes. At greater altitudes, particularly in steep ridgeline terrain, recently formed, generally small-sized drifted masses require caution. In southern East Tirol, in addition, inside the old snowpack on W-NW to N to E-NE facing steep slopes, especially with large additional loading, avalanches are possible in transition areas from shallow to deep snow.

SNOW LAYERING

The snow cover is being influenced to an increasing degree by solar radiation at low and intermediate altitudes; particularly on sun-drenched slopes, it is thoroughly wet. It was able to cool off during a night of clear skies, creating a generally breakable melt-freeze crust on the snowpack surface which in some cases is capable of bearing loads. There are weak layers inside the old snowpack in southern East Tirol: faceted crystals near embedded crusts. Elsewhere there are mostly small nests of depth hoar on W-NW to N to E-NE facing slopes which are not currently a major threat. Recently drifted snow masses atop surface hoar, especially at high altitudes in shady terrain, could be released.

ALPINE WEATHER FORECAST (ZAMG-WEATHER SERVICE INNSBRUCK)

Mountain weather today: generally ideal conditions, lots of sunshine and good visibility above the haze. Only the Lower Inn Valley will be disturbed by fog this morning. Significantly milder. Temperature at 2000 m: minus 5 to plus 1 degree; at 3000 m: minus 10 to minus 5 degrees. Generally light northeasterly winds, from place to place reaching moderate velocity. Weather in general: A high prevails over Central Europe, although a weak perturbation in the East could bring moist air masses our way tomorrow. Milder than in recent weeks. When the airstream shifts to southwesterly, foehn conditions are anticipated next week.

SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

Increasingly springlike conditions, with daytime warming cycle of avalanche danger

Patrick Nairz

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe