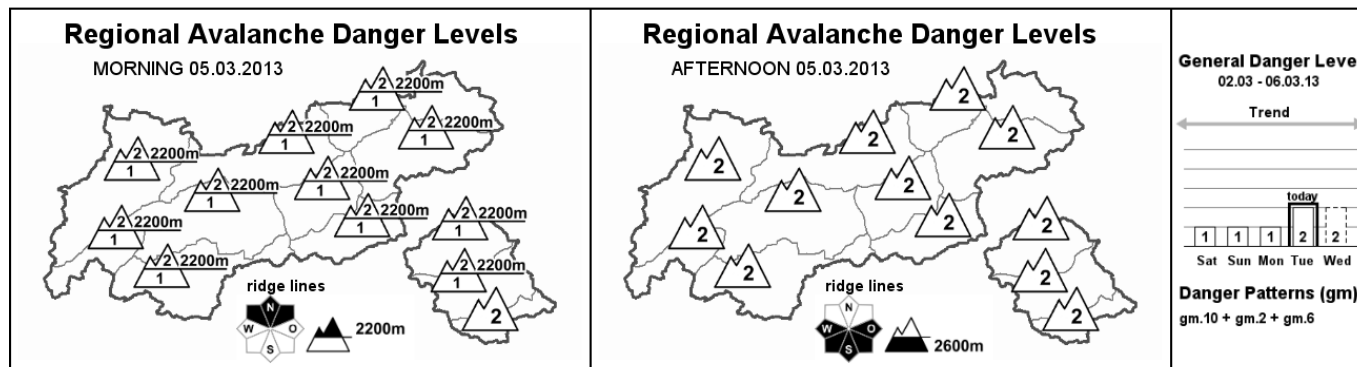


Avalanche Bulletin

of the Avalanche Warning Service Tyrol

Tuesday, 05.03.2013, at 07:30



Increasing foehn, increasing avalanche danger

AVALANCHE DANGER

The avalanche danger in Tirol's backcountry touring regions has augmented and is moderate widespread. In high alpine regions, especially the freshly formed, small snowdrift accumulations require caution. Avalanche prone locations are to be found near ridgeline areas and in steep, shady terrain. At low and intermediate altitudes, the daytime warming cycle requires the most urgent attention. As of late morning, the peril rapidly climbs as the snow cover loses its firmness and naturally triggered wet sluffs, loosely packed avalanches and full depth snowslides are likely. In isolated cases these releases can be large, raising the danger level to 3.

SNOW LAYERING

The snow cover is well structured, by and large, and quite stable. Large, cohesive weak layers are lacking for the most part. The snowpack is most easily triggerable in shallow-snow areas, e.g. in transition areas from deep to shallow snow. Caution is essential towards the daytime rise in danger level: as of late morning, the snowpack rapidly loses firmness due to daytime warming and solar radiation. In high alpine regions, fresh, relatively small sized snowdrift accumulations are being formed by the ever stronger foehn winds. Particularly in ridgeline areas and on steep, shady slopes, these drifted masses are quite prone to triggering.

ALPINE WEATHER FORECAST (ZAMG-WEATHER SERVICE INNSBRUCK)

Weather: A low is approaching from the western Mediterranean. The still dominant high is moving eastwards, giving rise to strong southerly foehn winds today and tomorrow. The air masses will gradually become more moist on the southern flank of the Alps. Mountain weather today: a generally sunny day. Cloud will appear from the Engadine and western South Tirol as of midday and ultimately extend to the western Main Ridge. At many altitudes, brisk to strong winds which in gusts can attain storm strength. Temperature at 2000 m: zero degrees; at 3000 m: minus 2 degrees. Strong, gusty southerly winds, in foehn corridors storm.

SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

Moderate avalanche danger widespread

Rudi Mair

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe