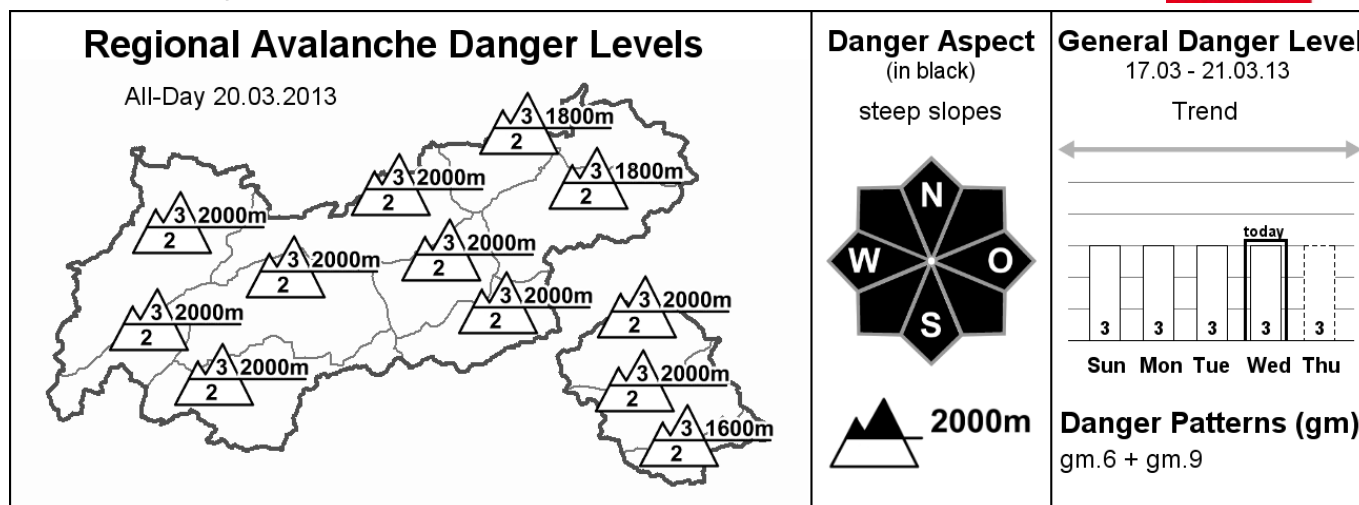


Avalanche Bulletin

of the Avalanche Warning Service Tyrol

Wednesday, 20.03.2013, at 07:30



Considerable avalanche danger widespread

AVALANCHE DANGER

The avalanche situation in Tyrol's backcountry touring regions is both delicate and treacherous far and wide, the danger level is generally considerable. More than anything else, the snowdrift accumulations are prone to triggering and can be released even by minimum additional loading, i.e. the weight of a single skier or freerider. Danger zones are difficult to recognize in outlying terrain and require experience in assessing avalanche hazards.

SNOW LAYERING

Over the last 24 hours there have been relatively heavy snow and graupel showers from region to region. The strong to stormy westerly wind shifted to southerly and gave rise to fresh snowdrift accumulations in high alpine regions, more than anywhere else, which are poorly bonded with the light, loose new fallen snow beneath them, making them relatively easy to trigger as avalanches. The snowpack surface is heavily impacted by wind: windblown or wind-hardened surfaces are often immediately adjacent to deeply drifted gullies and bowls. Only in wind protected zones is light, loose powder snow still to be found.

ALPINE WEATHER FORECAST (ZAMG-WEATHER SERVICE INNSBRUCK)

Weather: A low pressure zone over Iceland has brought about a westerly airstream over Central Europe which is bringing us Atlantic air masses, with perturbances embedded inside them, thus replacing the intermediate high repeatedly. Mountain weather today: a bit of sunshine, but mostly heavily overcast. Moderate foehn winds, snowfall will set in by evening. Temperature at 2000m: minus 1 degree; at 3000m: minus 8 degrees. Moderate southerly foehn winds shifting to westerly this evening.

SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

Avalanche danger predominantly considerable above 2000m

Rudi Mair

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe