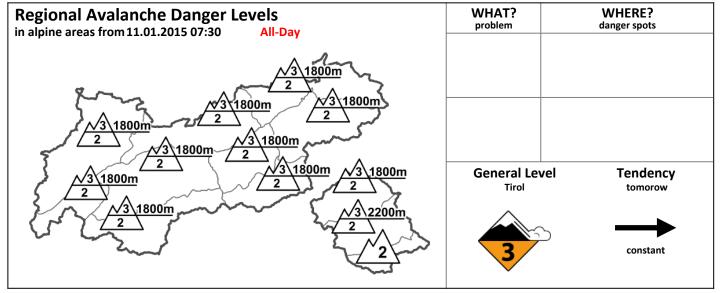


Avalanche Bulletin of the Avalanche Warning Service Tyrol Sunday, 11.01.2015, at 07:30 Uhr



Translated by Jeffrey McCabe



DANGER PATTERNS (DP): dp.6 - loose snow and wind dp.7 - snow-poor zones in snow-rich surrounding dp.1 - deep persistent weak layer

Stormy winds creating considerable avalanche danger widespread!

AVALANCHE DANGER

The avalanche situation in Tirol's backcountry touring regions remains highly delicate, the danger level over widespread areas lies in the upper strata of CONSIDERABLE. The major peril continues to lie in snowdrift accumulations which as a result of storm-strength winds are ongoingly forming anew. Due to sinking temperatures, the drifted masses are increasingly brittle, which makes them prone to triggering. Avalanche prone locations are found on steep slopes in all aspects above approximately 2200 m. Also the transition zones from deep to shallow snow need to be evaluated with special care. In those northern regions where snowfall has been heaviest, the avalanche danger levels could well increase over the course of the day.

Skiing and freeriding tours in outlying terrain continue to require experience in evaluating avalanche harards on-site.

SNOW LAYERING

The dominating element in the weather remains the storm velocity winds from westerly to northwesterly directions. They are causing immense masses of snow to be transported; new accumulations of snowdrift are forming ongoingly

Freshly formed and older snowdrift now blanket an unfavourably structured old snowpack for the most part. The fundament above approximately 2200 m generally consists of a series of hardened crusts interspersed with deeply embedded layers of loose, faceted snow crystals.

Below approximately 2000 m, the snow cover is thoroughly wet by and large, as a result of rainfall and mild temperatures. As temperatures begin to drop, the snowpack will tend to stabilise.

ALPINE WEATHER FORECAST (ZAMG-WEATHER SERVICE INNSBRUCK)

Weather in general: buried deep inside the persistently very powerful westerly to northwesterly air current, a cold front is embedded. It will push the masses of mild air out of Tirol, and usher in a surge of cold, moist air from the North Sea. On Monday, the enduring norwesterly airstream will prevail; on Tuesday, an intermediate high will make itself felt.

Mountain weather today: Snowfall and plummeting temperatures (nearly 15 degrees compared to yesterday) will be accompanied by storm-strength winds. Between afternoon and evening, the snowfall will taper off somewhat or turn to snow showers. Towards evening, some bright intervals are possible from place to place. Approximately 30 cm of new fallen snow is possible between Arlberg and Silvretta and towards the Karwendel; elsewhere, maximum 20 cm. Next to no snowfall in southern East Tirol and the Dolomites. Precipitation will end by Monday BUT THE WINDS WILL NOT. Temperature at 2000m, -9 degrees; at 3000m, -16 degrees.

Storm velocity westerly to northwesterly winds at high altitude. Tonight, a persistent storm from the northwest is anticipated.

SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

Rudi Mair

As temperatures drop, the snowfall-plus-storm winds will maintain a highly treacherous avalanche situation.

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