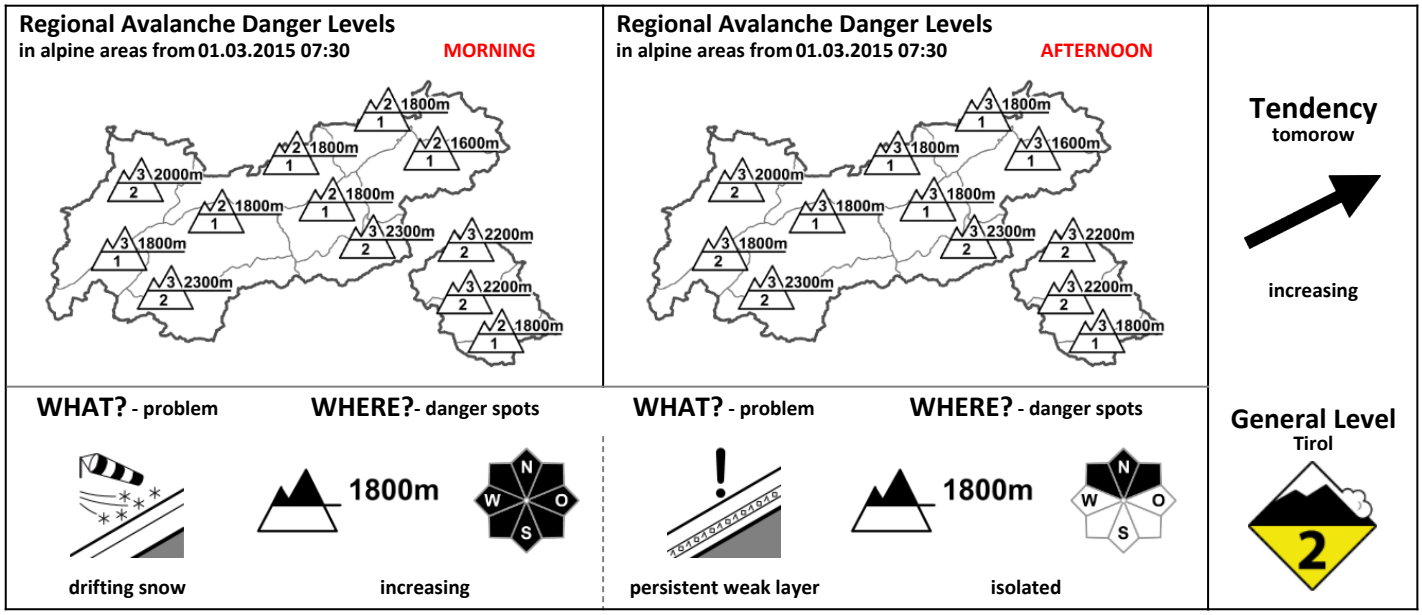
Avalanche Bulletin
of the Avalanche Warning Service Tyrol
Sunday, 01.03.2015, at 07:30 Uhr



DANGER PATTERNS (DP): dp.6 - loose snow and wind dp.8 - surface hoar blanketed with snow dp.7 - snow-poor zones in snow-rich surrounding

Intensifying winds will create new, very trigger-sensitive drifted masses in some places

AVALANCHE DANGER

Wind is the architect of avalanches and today it will cause the hazards to rise to danger level 3 far and wide above the treeline. Elsewhere the danger level is generally moderate; below the treeline, frequently low. Caution is urged primarily towards fresh and recently formed snowdrift accumulations which can trigger even beneath the weight of one sole skier. They occur frequently in shady treeline zones and on ridgeline slopes in all aspects. As the day unfolds their numbers will increase above the treeline as a result of intensifying winds. The old snowpack is unlikely to trigger, at most in very steep, unfrequented terrain and in transitions from shallow to deep snow at high altitude. Shady treeline zones require high caution: recent snowfall bonded due to rising temperatures; it could glide off from the loose old snowpack beneath it as temperatures and winds increase.

SNOW LAYERING

Marvellous powder snow is evident in many places, but the snowpack is showing increasing effects of wind impact. As soon as the loose, cold powder is blanketed by drifts, the powder turns to a bed surface for slab avalanches. In addition, last week's surface hoar was covered by fresh fallen snow, especially in shady treeline zones and in shady ridgeline zones; that, too, can serve as a bed surface for avalanches. Up to about 2300m in shady treeline zones, the loose, faceted crystals inside the snowpack are also a bed surface for potential avalanches, now that the new snow weighs on them.

ALPINE WEATHER FORECAST (ZAMG-WEATHER SERVICE INNSBRUCK)

Mountain weather today: clouds above summit level. To begin with, only the highest peaks are hidden, but as the cloud floor drops, more and more mountains will disappear in cloud. Light snowfall; below about 1600m as rain. In exposed ridgeline terrain on the northern flank of the Alps it is already stormy. Temperature at 2000m, -1 degree; at 3000m, -6 degrees. Strong to storm-strength westerly to southwesterly winds.

SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

Tomorrow as a result of storm and snowfall, increasing danger, especially in western regions. Naturally triggered avalanches possible.

Patrick Nairz **Translated by Jeffrey McCabe**