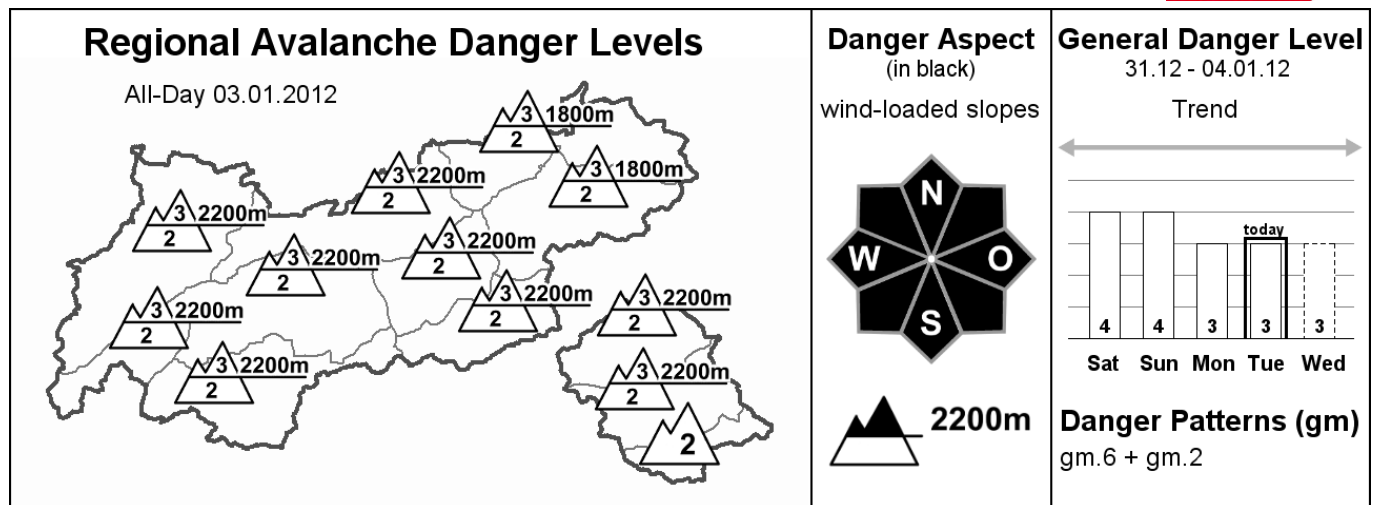


Avalanche Bulletin

of the Avalanche Warning Service Tyrol

Tuesday, 03.01.2012, at 07:30



Considerable avalanche danger widespread above 2200 m

AVALANCHE DANGER

The avalanche danger level in Tirol's backcountry touring regions is considerable widespread. The major peril stems from freshly formed and older snowdrift masses. The avalanche prone locations are to be found primarily on wind loaded slopes in all aspects above approximately 2200 m. Avalanches can generally be triggered even by minimum additional loading, i.e. the weight of one single backcountry skier. Below about 2000 m, particularly on steep, grassy slopes, caution is urged towards isolated naturally triggered full depth snowslides.

SNOW LAYERING

Over the last 24 hours there has been 10 to 15 cm of snowfall along the Main Alpine Ridge and on the Tauern Ridge of East Tirol. In southern East Tirol there was as much as 25 cm of new fallen snow, in the remaining regions much less. The precipitation was accompanied by moderate velocity winds, with strong winds in foehn-exposed regions, from the southwest, giving rise to small sized, quite trigger sensitive snowdrift accumulations. New fallen snow and drifted snow have been deposited atop a well settled old snowpack. Nonetheless, caution is required, since the bonding of the fresh snowdrift masses with the surface of the old snowpack is still very weak. Further, there is also a fundament of loosely packed, unbonded depth hoar, particularly on shady high alpine slopes along the Main Alpine Ridge.

ALPINE WEATHER FORECAST (ZAMG-WEATHER SERVICE INNSBRUCK)

Weather in general: A westerly air current will bring dry air masses to Tirol today, followed by the next cold front tomorrow, Wednesday. A powerful perturbation will arrive Thursday night bringing heavy snowfall. Mountain weather today: clouds and residual fogbanks will disperse this morning, giving way to sunshine. Some cloudbanks will take longer to thin out, persisting until this afternoon. Temperatures will rise significantly over the course of the day. Temperature at 2000 m: rising from minus 7 to plus 2 degrees; at 3000 m: moving from minus 13 to minus 5 degrees. Moderate westerly winds at high altitudes, brisk southwesterly winds this afternoon in foehn exposed regions.

SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

Some precipitation, considerable danger widespread

Rudi Mair

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe