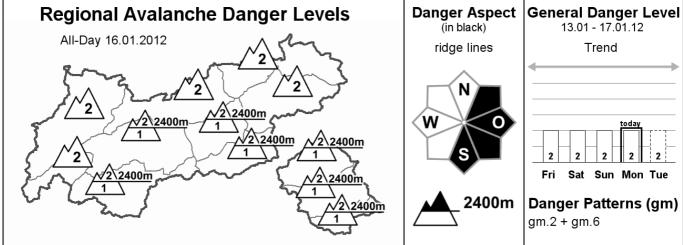
Avalanche Bulletin

of the Avalanche Warning Service Tyrol Monday, 16.01.2012, at 07:30





Generally favourable touring conditions - Beware full depth snowslides

AVALANCHE DANGER

Favourable conditions, amidst widespread moderate danger, currently prevail in Tirol's backcountry touring regions. Danger zones for dry slab avalanches are still to be found on shady slopes above approximately 2400 m. Small drifted snow masses and the transition areas from deep to shallow snow also require caution. In general, however, avalanches can now be triggered only by large additional loading, such as an entire group of backcountry skiers or freeriders. Below about 2500 m, caution is required towards naturally triggering full depth snowslides. Steep, grassy, east to south to west facing slopes are particularly endangered.

SNOW LAYERING

The snowpack has now settled and consolidated well. Above the treeline in particular, the impact of the wind is highly apparent: deeply drifted spots are often directly adjacent to spots utterly windblown and free of snow. A pronounced weak layer of depth hoar is still to be found above approximately 2500 m, mainly in the regions along the Main Alpine Ridge, where a layer of snow from autumn has transformed to faceted crystals, making it very loose.

ALPINE WEATHER FORECAST (ZAMG-WEATHER SERVICE INNSBRUCK)

Weather in general: until Tuesday, western Austria will be at the edge of a high pressure system in the path of a very cold, dry air current. During the course of the day on Wednesday, weather perturbances will move in. As of Thursday, a northwesterly current will bring renewed precipitation. Mountain weather today: perfect conditions for winter sports prevail in the mountains of Tirol, including superb visibility and unimpeded sunshine throughout the day. In the mountains it will often be milder than in the valleys, nonetheless quite chilly. Temperature at 2000 m: minus 9 to minus 5 degrees; at 3000 m: minus 13 to minus 10 degrees. Light northwesterly winds, at high altitude winds will be moderate.

SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

Rudi Mair

Predominantly favourable backcountry touring conditions persist

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe

