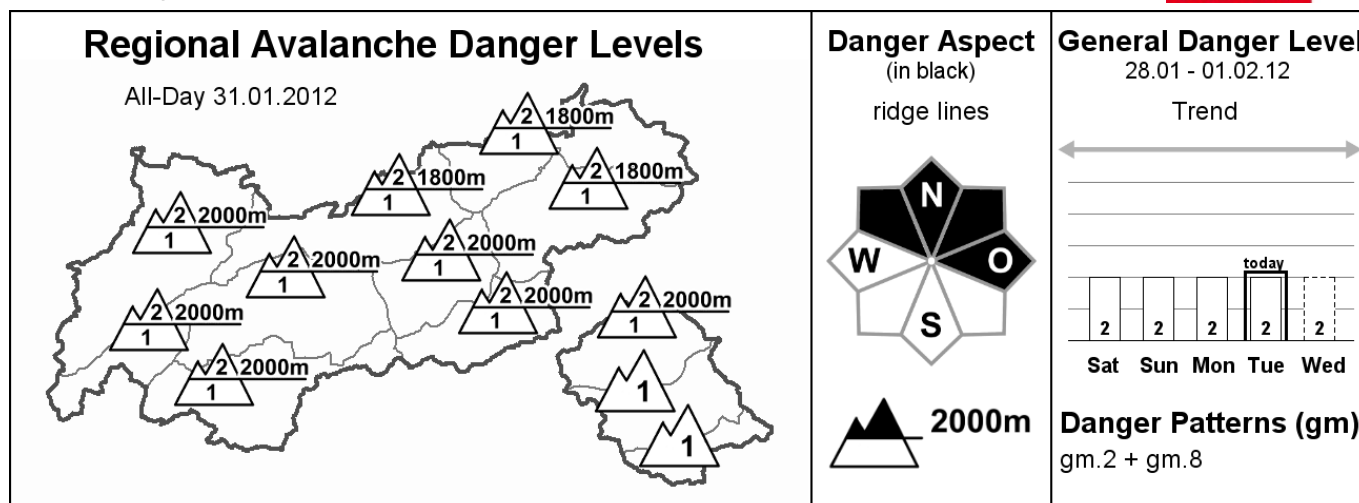


Avalanche Bulletin

of the Avalanche Warning Service Tyrol

Tuesday, 31.01.2012, at 07:30



Avalanche conditions are generally favourable

AVALANCHE DANGER

Predominantly favourable conditions prevail in Tirol's backcountry touring regions. The avalanche danger level below about 2000 m is usually low, above that altitude it is moderate. The major peril stems from freshly formed, relatively small sized snowdrift masses. Avalanche prone locations are to be found primarily in areas adjacent to ridgelines above approximately 2000 m in northwestern to northern to eastern aspects. Below about 2400 m, naturally triggered full depth snowslides still require caution, particularly on steep, grassy, eastern to southern to western facing slopes. In isolated cases, they can place exposed sections of transportation routes at risk.

SNOW LAYERING

The snow depths in North Tirol are currently above average; the structuring of the snowpack is stable, by and large. Extensive, area-wide weak layers are lacking, for the most part, with the exception of the regions along the Main Alpine Ridge, where the snow from autumn has transformed to a fundament of depth hoar above approximately 2500 m. On the snowpack surface, particularly on shady, high alpine slopes, surface hoar has formed over the last few days which provides a possible bed surface for the snowdrift which has been deposited on top of it.

ALPINE WEATHER FORECAST (ZAMG-WEATHER SERVICE INNSBRUCK)

Weather in general: a cold, high pressure system over Russia will spread its influence towards central Europe between now and this weekend. A small high-low system over France is bringing a bit of snowfall to Tirol's westernmost regions today. Mountain weather today: fog or, at very least, diffuse radiation will create impediments to visibility, accompanied by light, intermittent snowfall from the Ortler range over the Reschen region to the Wetterstein, as well as sporadic snowfall in East Tirol's Tauern. Elsewhere, it will be predominantly dry with bright intervals in the Lower Inn Valley in particular. Temperature at 2000 m: minus 9 degrees; at 3000 m: minus 14 degrees. Light southeasterly winds at high altitude, in the Wipptal the southerly wind will be brisk.

SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

Light snowfall will not affect the avalanche situation significantly

Rudi Mair

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe