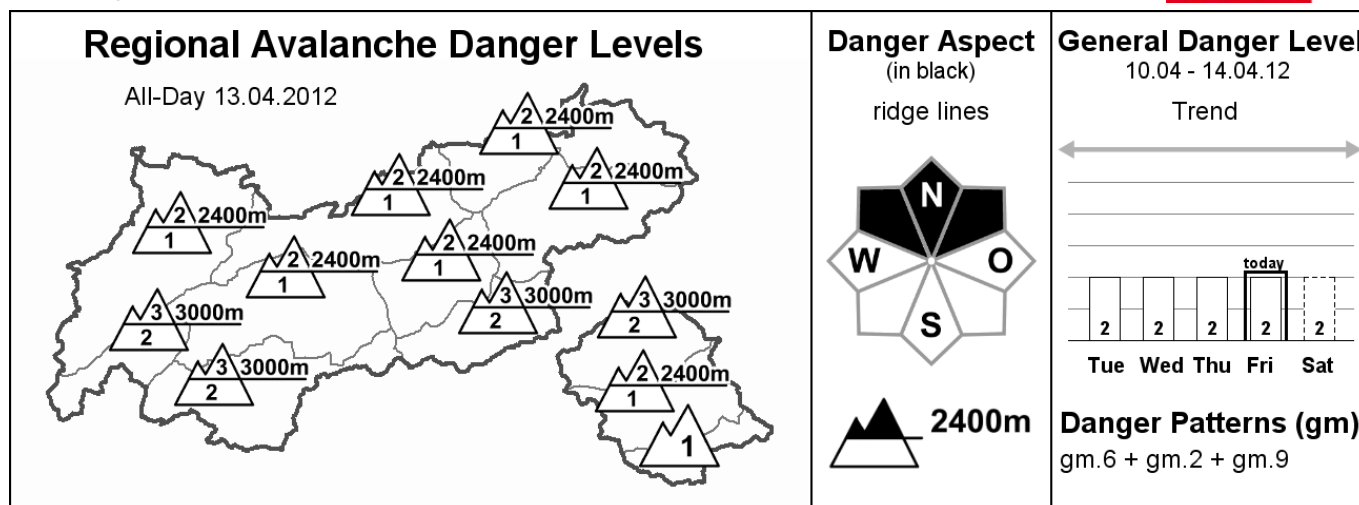


Avalanche Bulletin

of the Avalanche Warning Service Tyrol

Friday, 13.04.2012, at 07:30



Beware snowdrift accumulations in very steep ridgeline areas above 2400 m

AVALANCHE DANGER

The avalanche danger level corresponds to the altitude. In the regions along the Main Alpine Ridge above about 3000 m, considerable danger prevails. Between about 3000 and 2400 m, the danger level is generally moderate; below that altitude, low. In the remaining regions, the danger level above approximately 2400 m is moderate, below that altitude it is low. The hazards for backcountry touring stem from recently formed snowdrift accumulations, whose frequency and proneness to triggering increase with ascending altitude. Caution is urged in very steep ridgeline areas above approximately 2400 m, to begin with especially in northwestern to northern to northeastern aspects above approximately 2800 m, subsequently also in other aspects. Further, in high alpine regions below about 2400 m, isolated full depth snowslides can release on steep, grassy slopes.

SNOW LAYERING

The snowpack settled and consolidated well yesterday, at least below about 2400 m, due to the influences of temperature and nocturnal outgoing radiation, and above that altitude on sunny, steep slopes. On shady slopes above approximately 2400 m and in high alpine regions, recently drifted snow masses can be released at the borderline where it meets the loosely packed new fallen snow. In isolated cases, graupel was recently embedded in the snowpack, although it is deep enough to be a bed surface for slab avalanches only in isolated cases. Elsewhere, the snowpack is generally compact; however, at low and intermediate altitudes it is thoroughly wet.

ALPINE WEATHER FORECAST (ZAMG-WEATHER SERVICE INNSBRUCK)

Weather in general: a low pressure system is forming over the western Mediterranean which will shift its center towards the Adriatic Sea tomorrow, thereby extending its influence as far as the Alps. The high altitude airstream will gradually shift from southerly to northeasterly. Mountain weather today: the summits are veiled in cloud, bringing about poor visibility in all mountain ranges. In addition, repeated bouts of snowfall will occur, particularly on the Main Alpine Ridge and on the southern flank of the Alps. Temperature at 2000 m: minus 2 degrees; at 3000 m: minus 7 degrees. Light winds at all altitudes.

SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

No significant change in avalanche situation, the major peril still stems from ridgeline snowdrift at high altitudes.

Patrick Nairz

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe