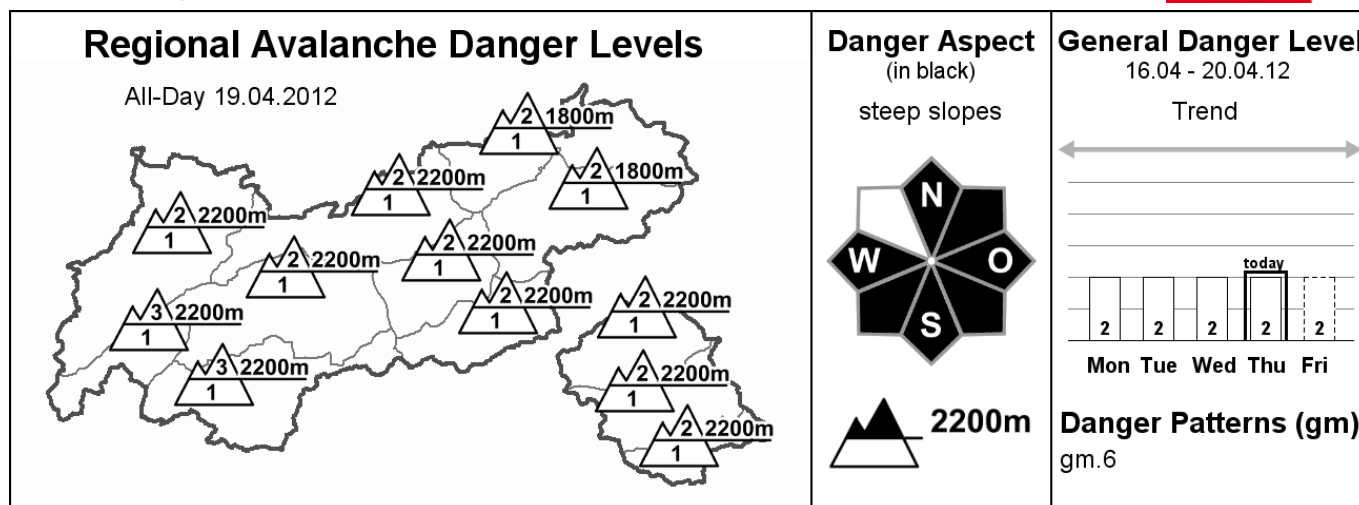


Avalanche Bulletin

of the Avalanche Warning Service Tyrol

Thursday, 19.04.2012, at 07:30



Moderate avalanche danger widespread. Beware fresh snowdrift.

AVALANCHE DANGER

The avalanche danger level in Tirol's backcountry touring regions is generally moderate. The major peril stems from freshly formed snowdrift accumulations which due to the current, highly variable weather conditions are repeatedly forming anew amidst ongoing snow showers. Particularly the dividing line between the loosely packed fresh fallen snow and the snowdrift which has been deposited on top of it should be evaluated with great care. Especially in high alpine regions along the Main Alpine Ridge, avalanches can be triggered in some places even by minimum additional loading. The avalanche prone locations are to be found on steep slopes and in areas adjacent to ridgelines in all aspects, most frequently above approximately 2200 m. Both the frequency and the spread of avalanche prone locations increase with ascending altitude. On sun-drenched slopes, in addition, caution is urged towards isolated naturally triggered, superficial, loosely packed snow avalanches.

SNOW LAYERING

Over the last 24 hours in the regions Arlberg/Ausserfern, Silvretta and the western part of the Main Alpine Ridge, there has been 15 to 20 cm of snowfall. In the remaining sectors of the Main Alpine Ridge and in inneralpine valleys there was at least 5 to 10 cm of new fallen snow. In high alpine ridgeline areas more than anywhere else, relatively small masses of drifted snow accumulated anew. The old snowpack is generally stable, lacking area-wide weak layers. The newly fallen and newly drifted snow are prone to triggering and can be triggered as avalanches with relative ease.

ALPINE WEATHER FORECAST (ZAMG-WEATHER SERVICE INNSBRUCK)

Weather in general: Tirol still lies in the zone dominated by a low pressure system centered over the British Isles, in the path of quite cool air masses which are subject to showers. Mountain weather today: highly variable conditions today, with intermittent sunshine in the early part of the day in the western ranges in particular, and scattered showers this afternoon. Snowfall is anticipated above approximately 1600 m. Temperature at 2000 m: minus 3 degrees; at 3000 m: minus 9 degrees. Light to moderate southwesterly to southerly winds at high altitudes.

SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

Amidst variable conditions, no significant change in avalanche situation.

Rudi Mair

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe