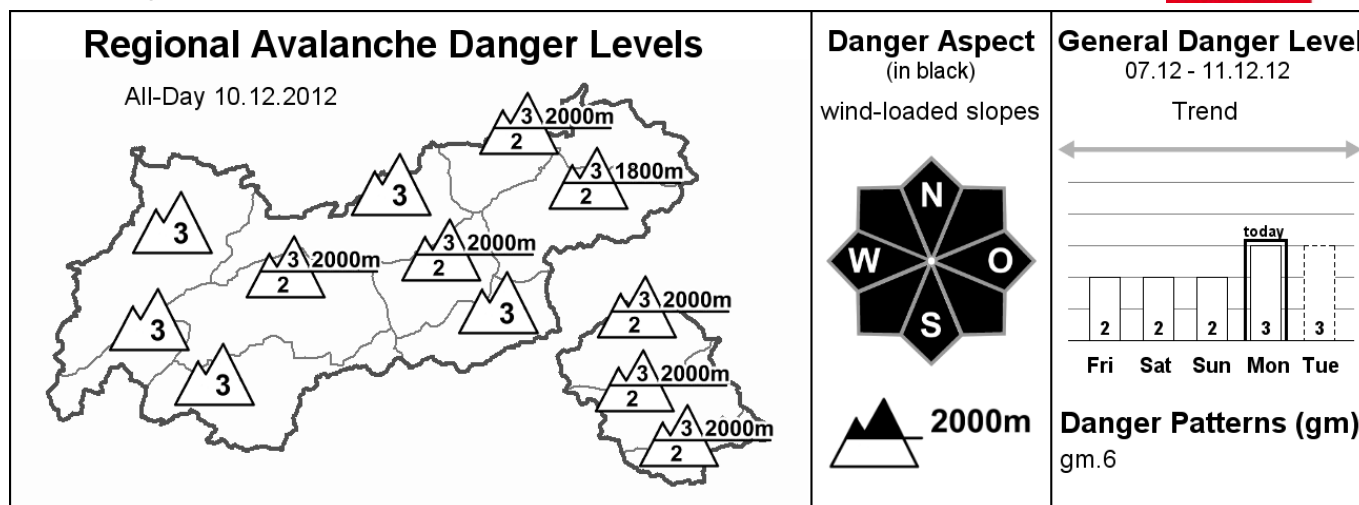


Avalanche Bulletin

of the Avalanche Warning Service Tyrol

Monday, 10.12.2012, at 07:30



Considerable avalanche danger far and wide, amidst snowfall and wind

AVALANCHE DANGER

Heavy snowfall and winds at strong to storm-strength velocity from the northwest have created considerable avalanche danger widespread. Avalanche prone locations are to be found on wind loaded slopes in all aspects, especially above approximately 2000 m. More than anything else, the drifted snow masses can be triggered as avalanches even by minimum additional loading, e.g. the weight of one sole skier. The frequency and spread of the danger zones are expected to increase during the course of the day today. Backcountry skiing and freeriding tours demand experience in evaluating avalanche perils. Recognizing the avalanche prone locations is made more difficult by the poor visibility.

SNOW LAYERING

Over the last 24 hours in the Arlberg/Ausserfern regions, the Silvretta, along the Northern Alps and in North Tirol's Lower Inn Valley there has been as much as 30 cm of new fallen snow. Along the Main Alpine Ridge and the Tauern Ridge and in inneralpine valleys there was 10 to 20 cm of snowfall; in southern East Tirol only a trace. The fresh fallen snow has been massively transported by the still intensifying northwesterly wind, leading to trigger-sensitive snow drift accumulations forming. The decisive factor is that the bond between these drifted masses and the cold, new fallen snow beneath them is poor. Thus, avalanches can be released with relative ease.

ALPINE WEATHER FORECAST (ZAMG-WEATHER SERVICE INNSBRUCK)

Weather conditions: Tirol lies in the field of a low over Central Europe. Moist and cold air masses are being blocked by the Alps, thus promising still more snowfall ahead. An intermediate high is expected on Wednesday, bringing drier air. Mountain weather today: The peaks are shrouded in fog and cloud, it will continue to snow, with correspondingly poor visibility. By tomorrow morning, an additional 20 to 40 cm of snowfall can be expected. Strong winds will be blowing, giving rise to massive snow drift accumulations. In the Southern Alps, generally dry and partly sunny. Temperature at 2000 m: minus 10 degrees; at 3000 m: minus 17 degrees. Strong to stormy northwesterly winds at high altitudes.

SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

Considerable avalanche danger widespread continues

Rudi Mair

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe