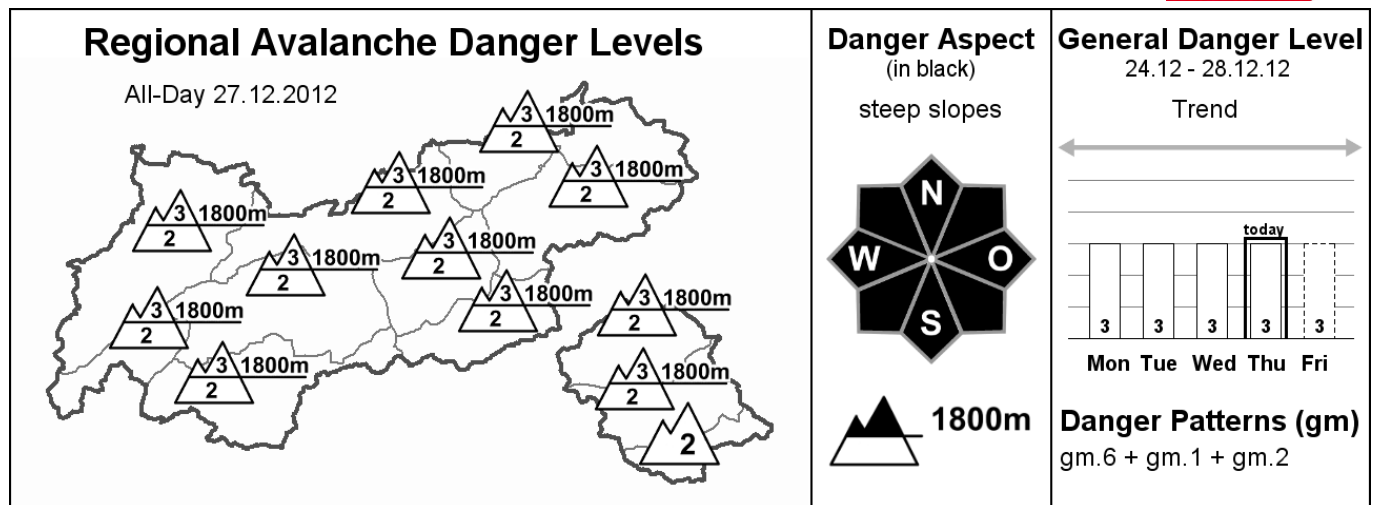


Avalanche Bulletin

of the Avalanche Warning Service Tyrol

Thursday, 27.12.2012, at 07:30



Snowfall and wind: considerable avalanche danger widespread

AVALANCHE DANGER

The avalanche danger in Tyrol's backcountry touring regions remains considerable far and wide. Avalanche prone locations are to be found on steep and wind loaded slopes in all aspects, for the most part above approximately 1800 m. Fresh and older snow drift masses can be triggered even by minimum additional loading, i.e. the weight of a single person. Caution: New snow drift will accumulate over the course of the day as a result of the stormy westerly to southwesterly winds. Below about 2200 m, caution is urged towards isolated naturally triggered full depth snowslides.

SNOW LAYERING

Over the last 24 hours along the Main Alpine Ridge and in the East Tirolean Tauern Ridge, there has been 10 to 20 cm of snowfall. In inneralpine and northern regions there was generally 5 to 10 cm of fresh fallen snow. The westerly wind was strong to storm strength, which means that wide ranging snow drift accumulations can be expected to have formed again. Fresh and older drifted masses are quite brittle and can thus be triggered with relative ease as avalanches. In addition, the weak fundament of the snowpack in high alpine, shady terrain requires caution. At low and intermediate altitudes, the snow cover is thoroughly wet from the mild temperatures.

ALPINE WEATHER FORECAST (ZAMG-WEATHER SERVICE INNSBRUCK)

Weather: A westerly airstream continues to predominate in Central Europe. A warm front will pass through today, accompanied by stormy high altitude winds, tonight a cold front will swiftly follow in its wake which will cause the snowfall level to drop. Thereafter the air pressure will climb again. Mountain weather today: storm at high altitudes and in forest lanes, snow showers will pass particularly through the Northern Alps, with the snowfall level at 1500 m. In the ranges south of the Inn Valley, on the Main Alpine Ridge and in the Southern Alps, visibility will be better, amidst less wind especially in the Southern Alps to begin with. Temperature at 2000 m: zero degrees; at 3000 m: minus 7 degrees. In the Northern Alps in particular, storm strength southwesterly to westerly high altitude winds.

SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

Considerable avalanche danger far and wide

Rudi Mair

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe