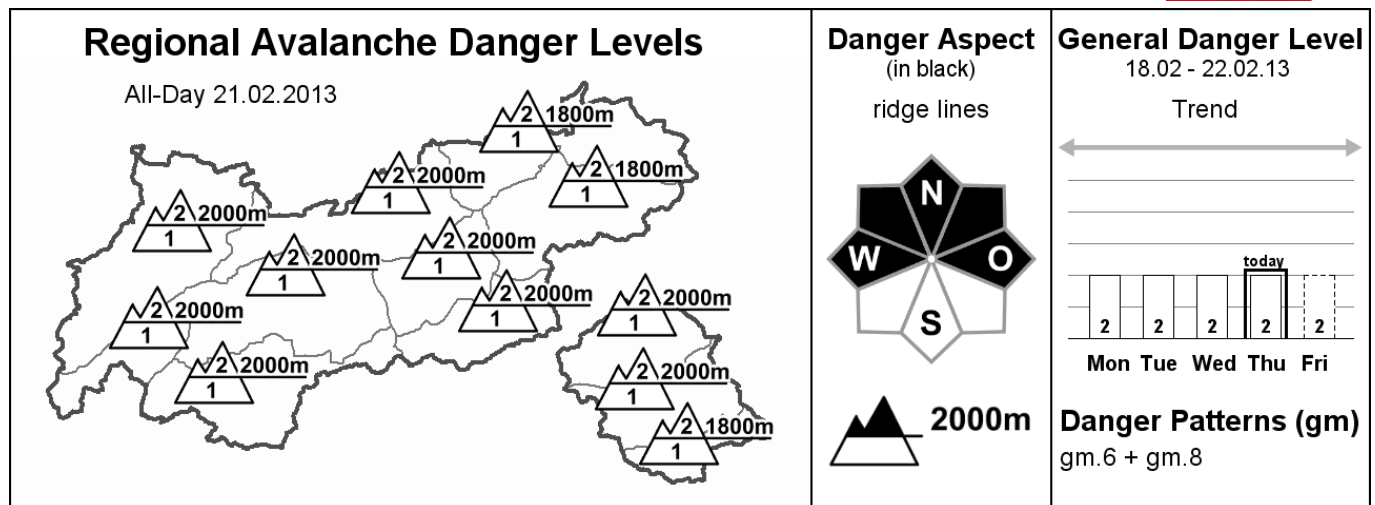


Avalanche Bulletin

of the Avalanche Warning Service Tyrol

Thursday, 21.02.2013, at 07:30



Above 2000 m, moderate avalanche danger widespread

AVALANCHE DANGER

The avalanche danger in Tirol's backcountry touring regions is moderate widespread above approximately 2000 m. More than anything else it is the snowdrift accumulations which have formed over the last few days which are relatively easy to trigger. Danger zones are to be found on steep, shady slopes and ridgeline terrain, as well as in transition areas from deep to shallow snow: all of these require great care in their evaluation! Below about 2400 m, on steep, grass covered slopes, isolated naturally triggered full depth snowslides are possible.

SNOW LAYERING

Over the last 24 hours there has been 5-10 cm of snowfall widespread in Tirol, from place to place more. The winds slackened off, thus there were few drifted masses created. The snowpack surface on sunny slopes is frequently somewhat crusted up to intermediate altitudes; on shady slopes it is generally loosely packed and powdery. Surface hoar has been evident in some places. Particularly in high alpine, shady terrain, drifted snow masses have frequently been deposited on top of a loosely packed snow base, making them quite prone to triggering.

ALPINE WEATHER FORECAST (ZAMG-WEATHER SERVICE INNSBRUCK)

Weather in general: A low extending from Poland to France is continuing to bring cold and moderately moist air masses to the Alps. This low is moving its center over western Europe towards the Mediterranean Sea over the next few days. On the southern flank of the Alps there will be significant snowfall. Mountain weather today: cold but not windy. Only the high mountains will reach out of the low lying cloud into the sunshine this morning. This afternoon, even there cloud will move in. Elsewhere heavily overcast or foggy in general, amidst a few snowflakes coming down, bringing under 5 cm of new fallen snow, a bit more from the Ortler to the Dolomites. Temperature at 2000 m: minus 12 degrees; at 3000 m: minus 18 degrees. Light southerly winds.

SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

No significant change in the avalanche situation

Rudi Mair

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe