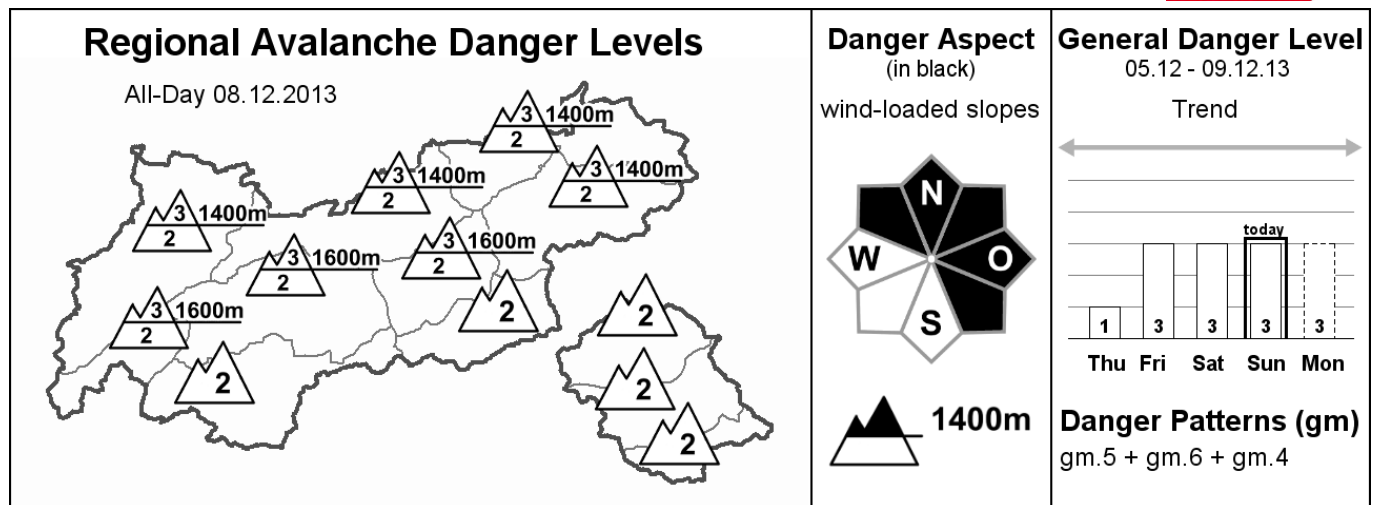


Avalanche Bulletin

of the Avalanche Warning Service Tyrol

Sunday, 08.12.2013, at 07:30



Caution: fresh snowdrift is extremely trigger sensitive in places!

AVALANCHE DANGER

Particularly in the regions Arlberg over the Northern Alps as far as the Kitzbühel Alps where snowfall was heaviest, the situation is delicate and treacherous. Due to stormy winds of recent days and the highly irregular snow distribution which resulted, skiers and free riders are lured to the freshly drifted steep slopes where the snowdrift in shady terrain, but also near ridgelines on east and southeast facing slopes is very easy to release. This was confirmed yesterday by artificial triggerings as well as releases caused by skiers. Towards the south the frequency of danger zones tends to diminish, but there, too, fresh snowdrift on steep slopes should be avoided. The peril is generally considerable in North Tirol, moderate in southern regions.

SNOW LAYERING

The snow cover has been heavily impacted by strong to stormy winds. Immediately adjacent to vast windblown surfaces deeply drifted places can be found, mainly in gullies and bowls. Fresh snowdrift is poorly bonded with the old snowpack surface, particularly on west-northwest to north to east-northeast facing slopes, since faceted snow crystals cover the surface. On sunny slopes there are melt-freeze crusts, the likeliest spots for avalanches to trigger are near ridgelines. Embedded inside the old snowpack in some regions up to about 2500 m is a thin rain crust surrounded by faceted crystals. Small sized slab avalanches can be released in those areas in steep terrain through large additional loading.

ALPINE WEATHER FORECAST (ZAMG-WEATHER SERVICE INNSBRUCK)

Mountain weather today: Sunshine with good visibility for the most part, a few hours of cloud at high altitudes this morning creating somewhat diffuse light. From the Kaiser range eastwards, more cloud. At high altitudes temperatures will rise somewhat: at 2000m, -3 degrees; at 3000m, -9 degrees. Moderate northwesterly winds, still at strong velocity in high altitude ridgeline areas.

SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

No significant change yet. Recently drifted masses on north facing slopes are still prone to triggering.

Patrick Nairz

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe