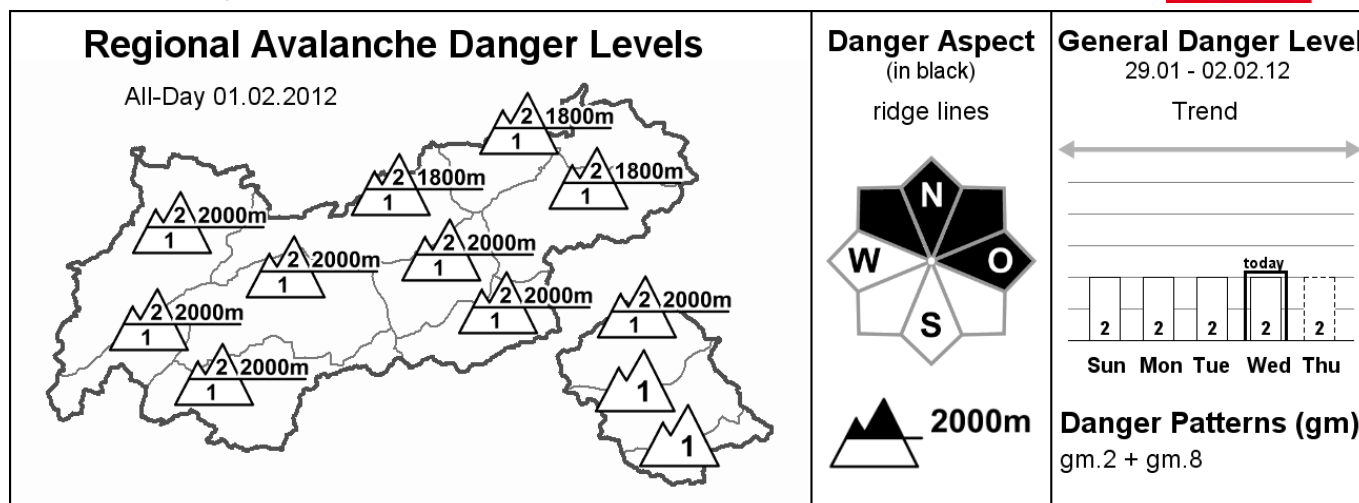


Avalanche Bulletin

of the Avalanche Warning Service Tyrol

Wednesday, 01.02.2012, at 07:30



Generally favourable touring conditions - Beware fresh snowdrift

AVALANCHE DANGER

Ongoing favourable conditions prevail in Tirol's backcountry touring regions. The avalanche danger level below about 2000 m is usually low; above that altitude, usually moderate. Caution is required primarily in high alpine, shady areas near ridgelines, where the freshly formed snowdrift accumulations can be triggered with relative ease, although the released snow masses tend to be small. Below about 2400 m, the danger of naturally triggered full depth snowslides continues to require caution, particularly on steep, grassy slopes in eastern to southern to western aspects. In isolated cases, such slides can place exposed sections of transportation routes at risk.

SNOW LAYERING

The snow layering is currently favourable far and wide, lacking extensive, area-wide weak layers. Only in the regions along the Main Alpine Ridge, where the snow from autumn has transformed to faceted crystals, is there above approximately 2500 m a fundament of unbonded depth hoar. Over the last few days, relatively small sized snowdrift accumulations have formed in high alpine, shady areas near ridgelines which can be quite easily triggered in some places.

ALPINE WEATHER FORECAST (ZAMG-WEATHER SERVICE INNSBRUCK)

Weather in general: a low over Italy will bring moist air masses to Tirol from the south today. From the northeast, cold air masses are arriving simultaneously. On Friday, a powerful cold wave from eastern Europe will bring a period of intense cold lasting several days. Significant amounts of snowfall are not expected. Mountain weather today: along the Northern Alps, in the Kaiser range and Kitzbühel Alps above the high fog, partly sunny and dry today. On the Main Ridge, much less sunshine and intermittent snow flurries. Generally overcast in the Southern Alps, with possible light snow flurries. Temperature at 2000 m: minus 12 degrees; at 3000 m: minus 16 degrees. Light to moderate southeasterly to easterly winds at high altitudes.

SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

No significant change in avalanche situation

Rudi Mair

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe