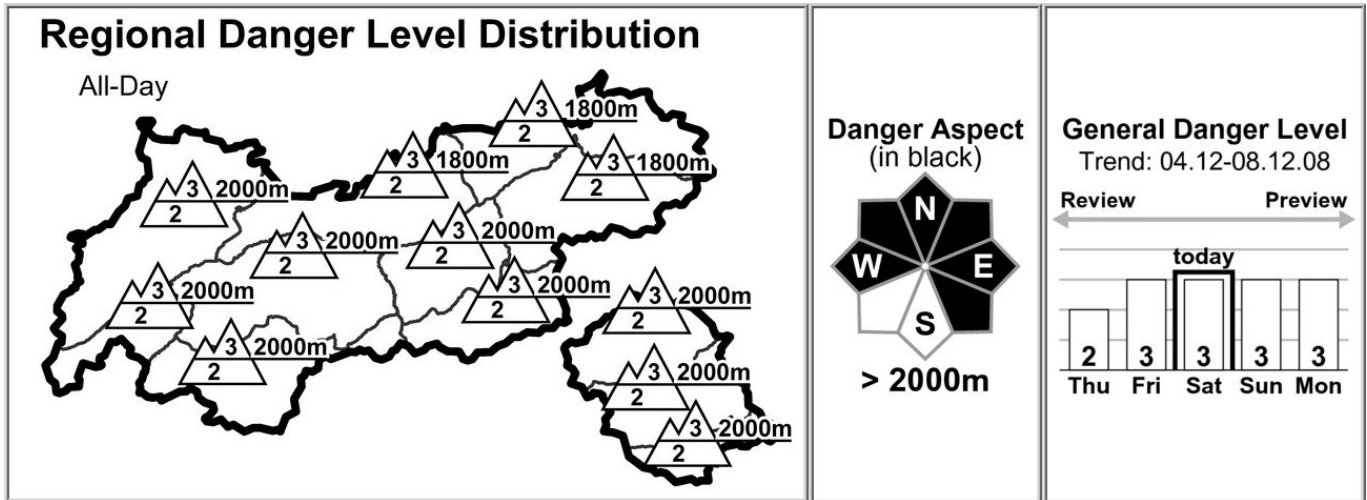


# Avalanche Bulletin

## of the Avalanche Warning Service Tyrol

Saturday, 06.12.2008, at 07:30



## ESCALATING AVALANCHE DANGER DUE TO FRESHLY FORMED SNOWDRIFT ACCUMULATIONS

### AVALANCHE DANGER

The avalanche hazards in Tyrol's backcountry touring regions have increased somewhat. Below about 2000 m, it is moderate; above, it is widespread considerable. The major danger stems from freshly formed snowdrift accumulations, which are to be found primarily on west to north to southeast facing steep slopes as well as generally in wind loaded gullies and bowls in all aspects. A slab avalanche can be triggered by minimum additional loading, even by a single backcountry skier or freerider. Isolated natural avalanches are also possible, although they are not expected to attain great size.

### SNOW LAYERING

Over the last 24 hours in the Arlberg/Ausserfern region and along the northern flank of the Alps, there has been up to 20 cm of new snow. In the remaining parts of North and East Tyrol, there was generally 10 cm. The snowfall was accompanied by strong, in places by stormy southwesterly winds which lead to new snowdrift accumulations forming in high alpine regions in particular. New fallen snow and snowdrift cover over a quite stable old snowpack. However, the freshly formed snowdrift masses are inadequately bonded with the loosely packed surface of the old snowpack. With increasing altitude, this bonding becomes poorer and poorer, making the likelihood of avalanches being triggered even greater.

### ALPINE WEATHER FORECAST (ZAMG-WEATHER SERVICE INNSBRUCK)

Tyrol is in a quickly moving western airstream in which masses of moist air are repeatedly supplied to the Alps. On Sunday, the air currents will shift to northwesterly. It will remain very windy in the peaks, and highly variable: general visibility will be better in the morning than the afternoon, when snow showers are anticipated and the summits will again be shrouded in clouds. Temperatures will remain wintery. It will remain dry in general, and there will be some sunshine on the southern flank of the Alps. Temperature at 2000 m: minus 6 degrees; at 3000 m: minus 12 degrees. Brisk, sometimes strong westerly winds at high altitudes.

### SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

Ongoing snowdrift accumulations assure continued considerable avalanche danger.

Rudi Mair

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe