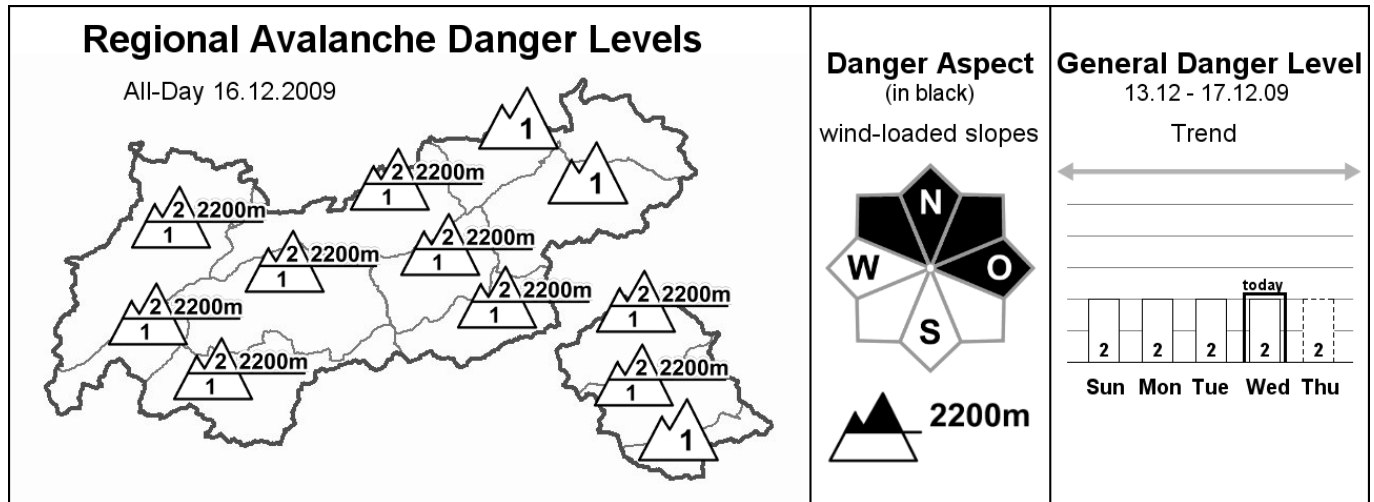


# Avalanche Bulletin

## of the Avalanche Warning Service Tyrol

Wednesday, 16.12.2009, at 07:30



### Favourable backcountry touring conditions by and large

#### AVALANCHE DANGER

In Tyrol's backcountry touring regions, predominantly favourable conditions reign. The avalanche danger is generally low below about 2200 m. Above that altitude, moderate in general. The major hazard stems from last week's snowdrift accumulations. The avalanche prone locations are to be found primarily above approximately 2200 m, particularly in areas adjacent to ridge lines and on steep, northwest to north to east facing slopes. Avalanches can most easily be triggered in transitions from shallow to deep snowpack, e.g. when traversing into snowdrifted gullies and bowls.

#### SNOW LAYERING

The snowpack is becoming more and more loosely packed, as a consequence of the very cold, deep winter weather. Thus, the harder layers embedded in the snowpack are gradually dissolving and the tensions between the layers is diminishing. Caution is nonetheless urged towards the snowdrift accumulations of last week which are still trigger sensitive. They are generally small sized, usually found above approximately 2200 m, and are often covered over with loosely packed snow, making them difficult to recognize.

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

Weather: weakly opposing pressure zones over Central Europe accompanied by masses of moist air which are enclosed in the valleys remain the determining factors for Tyrol's weather. Cold air masses continue to stream towards Tyrol from the northeast. As of Friday, the major airstream will shift gradually to northwesterly. Mountain weather today: sunny, often cloudless skies but very low temperatures above 1600 to 2000 m. Light winds, the air is dry, visibility above the fog is excellent. Tonight it will remain dry and generally clear. Temperature at 2000 m: minus 12 degrees; at 3000 m: minus 16 degrees. Light northeasterly winds at high altitudes, shifting to northerly then to northwesterly during the day today.

#### SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

Ongoing favourable backcountry touring conditions.

Rudi Mair

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe