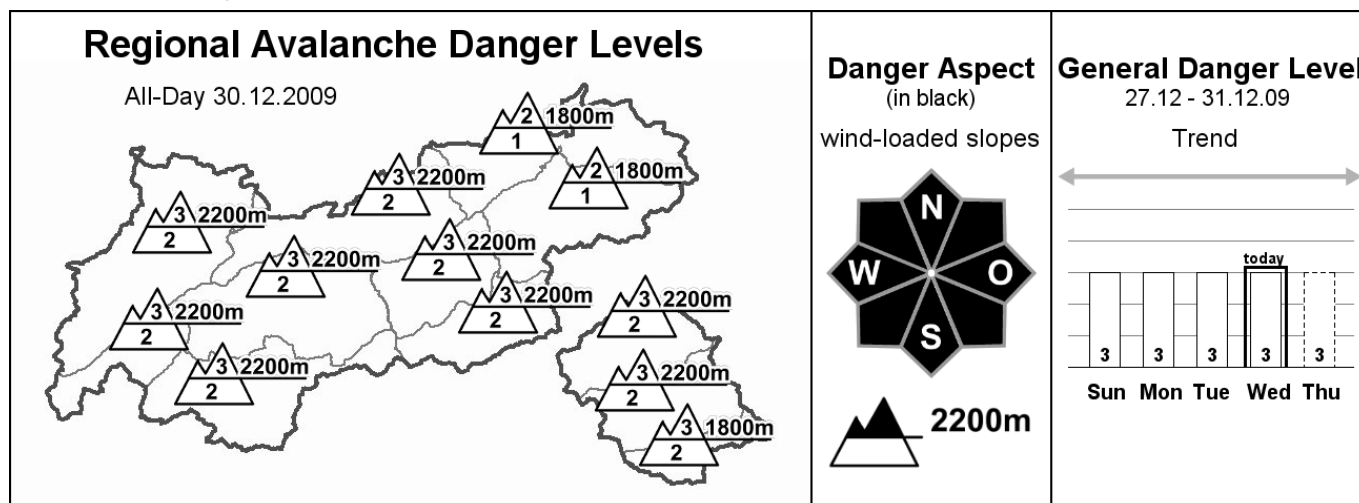


# Avalanche Bulletin

## of the Avalanche Warning Service Tyrol

Wednesday, 30.12.2009, at 07:30



### Still considerable danger in high alpine regions - Snowpack increasingly wet at low altitudes

#### AVALANCHE DANGER

The avalanche danger in Tyrol has receded slightly, but is still considerable in high alpine regions. The major hazard stems from new and old snowdrift accumulations. Avalanche prone locations are to be found on steep slopes and in areas adjacent to ridge lines in all expositions above approximately 2200 m. Particularly in transition areas from shallow to deep snowpack, avalanches can be triggered even by minimum additional loading, i.e. the weight of a single backcountry skier or snowboarder. The peril of moist sluffs and wet avalanches will escalate over the course of the day as far up as about 2000 m.

#### SNOW LAYERING

Rising temperatures have settled the snowpack down to intermediate altitudes and consolidated it somewhat. Rainfall up to about 1800 - 2000 m today will make the snowpack thoroughly wet over the course of the day, leading to a loss of its firmness. In high alpine regions, caution is still urged: freshly formed and older snowdrift accumulations have been deposited atop a faceted, loose old snowpack. The bonding of this snowdrift with the old snow surface is generally still poor, permitting avalanches to be triggered with relative ease.

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

Weather: Tyrol is dominated by a brisk west to southwest air current, accompanied by very mild and intermittently moist air masses. Not until after New Year's will this air current shift to northerly, which will cause temperatures to drop significantly. Mountain weather today: the higher altitude mountain regions are often in clouds or fog. It will rain to begin with in the western part of the Northern Alps, in all regions by this afternoon. Snowfall only in high alpine regions. Brisk winds and temperatures above zero are expected up to about 2200 m, in East Tyrol up to 1600 m. Temperature at 2000 m: minus 1 to plus 1 degree; at 3000 m: minus 6 to minus 3 degrees. Brisk to strong westerly to southwesterly winds at high altitudes.

#### SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

The avalanche danger will gradually subside.

Rudi Mair

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe