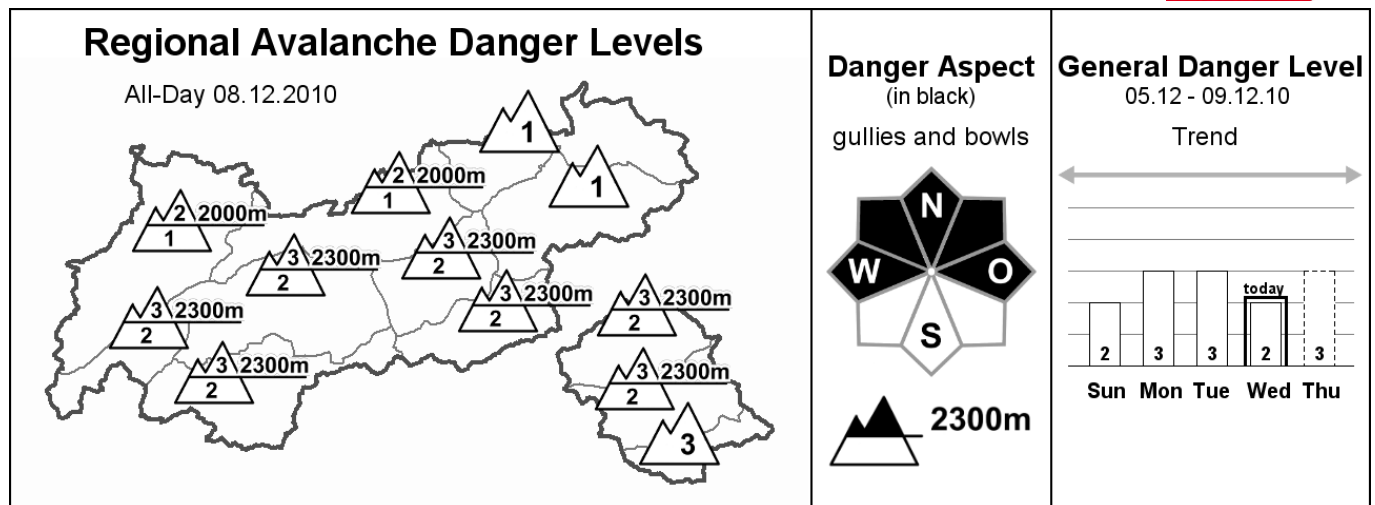


# Avalanche Bulletin

## of the Avalanche Warning Service Tyrol

Wednesday, 08.12.2010, at 07:30



**Beware fresh snowdrift accumulations in high alpine regions, full depth snowslides in the south**

### AVALANCHE DANGER

The avalanche danger level at low and intermediate altitudes in northern regions with little snow has receded to low (1) in general below about 2000 m. Above that altitude, the danger level in the north is moderate (2), further to the south above approximately 2300 m it is considerable (3). Special caution is urged towards fresh snowdrift accumulations which tend to become both deeper and more frequent with ascending altitude. They occur most often in very steep areas near ridge lines of western to northern to eastern exposition. At higher altitudes, even minimum additional loading is sufficient to unleash them. In addition, in high alpine regions, i.e. above 3000 m, on very steep, shady slopes, the snowpack can be unleashed from a layer of depth hoar near the ground, especially in transition areas from shallow to deep snow, by large additional loading. In those southern regions with the most snow, full depth snowslides will be frequent on steep, grass covered slopes, which might even put transportation roads at risk.

### SNOW LAYERING

The snowpack became moist or even thoroughly wet yesterday in all expositions up to about 2000 m; on east-northeast to south to west-northwest facing slopes, this took place up to 2700 m altitude. It has thus lost its firmness for a brief interim, but also managed to consolidate at the same time. At higher altitudes, strong winds have brought about newly transported snow which, particularly at high altitudes, is poorly bonded with the old snowpack, making it prone to triggering in very steep terrain in particular.

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

General weather: a low over the Bay of Biscay is bringing moist, mild air masses from the southwest to central Europe today. Tonight the winds will shift to northwesterly and a massive cold front will reach the Alps. Mountain weather today: on the northern flank of the Alps, still good visibility due to the stormy foehn winds; on the Main Alpine Ridge and south thereof, the peaks already have their heads in the barrier clouds. Tonight, temperatures will drop drastically, by 15 degrees. Temperature at 2000 m: plus 1 to 4 degrees; at 3000 m: minus 2 degrees. Strong winds, in foehn exposed areas winds will attain storm strength.

### SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

As temperatures drop, the snowpack will stabilize at low and intermediate altitudes, to begin with. At higher altitudes, new snowdrift accumulations will form.

Patrick Nairz

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe