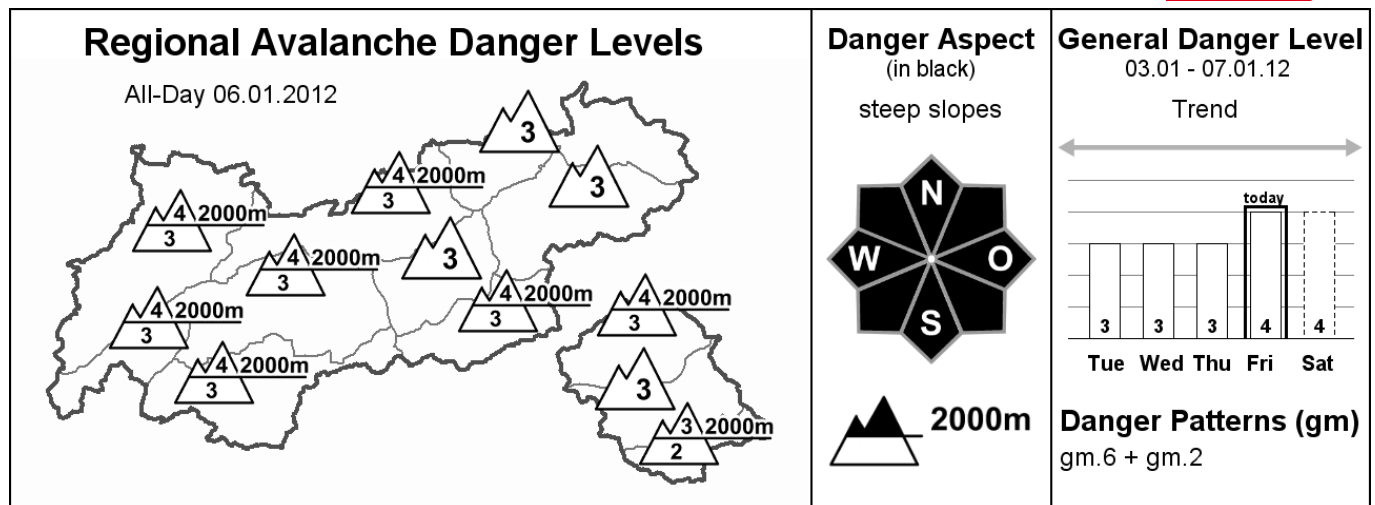


# Avalanche Bulletin

## of the Avalanche Warning Service Tyrol

Friday, 06.01.2012, at 07:30



### High avalanche danger in some regions

#### AVALANCHE DANGER

A critical situation prevails in Tirol, the avalanche danger level is high from region to region. Avalanche prone locations are to be found on steep slopes in all aspects, primarily above approximately 2000 m. The frequency and spread of these danger zones increases with ascending altitude. Avalanches can be triggered even by minimum additional loading. Backcountry skiing and freeriding tours require extensive experience. Those without such experience are urgently advised to remain on the ski runs which have been secured. In addition, naturally triggered avalanches can be expected. In the regions where snowfall has been heaviest, these can attain large size and thereby endanger exposed transportation routes. Below about 2000 m, furthermore, full depth snowslides can also be naturally triggered.

#### SNOW LAYERING

A stormy period of precipitation has brought heavy snowfall from region to region over the last 24 hours. In the areas of Arlberg, Ausserfern, Silvretta, the western part of the Northern Alps and the western part of the Main Alpine Ridge where barrier cloud effects prevail, there has been 40 to 60 cm of snowfall. In the northern Stubai and Ötztal Alps, the Tux and Zillertal Alps and along the Tauern Ridge of East Tirol, there has been 30 to 50 cm of new fallen snow. In the eastern sector of the Northern Alps, Kitzbühel Alps and southern East Tirol, there has been 15 to 30 cm of fresh fallen snow. Stormy, and to some extent even gale strength northwesterly winds accompanied the snowfall, giving rise to widespread snowdrift accumulations. Snow depths and distribution are irregular and highly varied, even over small surface areas. The major peril stems from the new fallen and drifted snow: the bonding of individual layers is often quite poor, making the snowpack highly trigger sensitive. The old snowpack has settled well in general and is relatively stable. However, a fundament consisting of depth hoar, especially on high alpine shady slopes along the Main Alpine Ridge requires great caution.

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

Weather in general: In the wake of a low pressure system over Poland, moist air masses from the North Sea are sweeping across the Alps towards the Adriatic. On the heels of a short, quiet interim on Saturday, the next round of snowfall will follow from the northwest. Mountain weather today: snow storms and heavy snowfall. In the barrier flank regions of North Tirol, approximately 50 cm of additional snowfall is anticipated; on the Main Alpine Ridge, about 30 cm of new fallen snow, accompanied by poor visibility and vast snow transport by the wind. In the Dolomites, snow showers this morning, with bright spells expected later in the day. Temperature at 2000 m: minus 9 degrees; at 3000 m minus 17 degrees. Storm velocity northwesterly winds, slackening off slightly towards evening.

#### SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

Avalanche danger not expected to recede quickly

Rudi Mair

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe