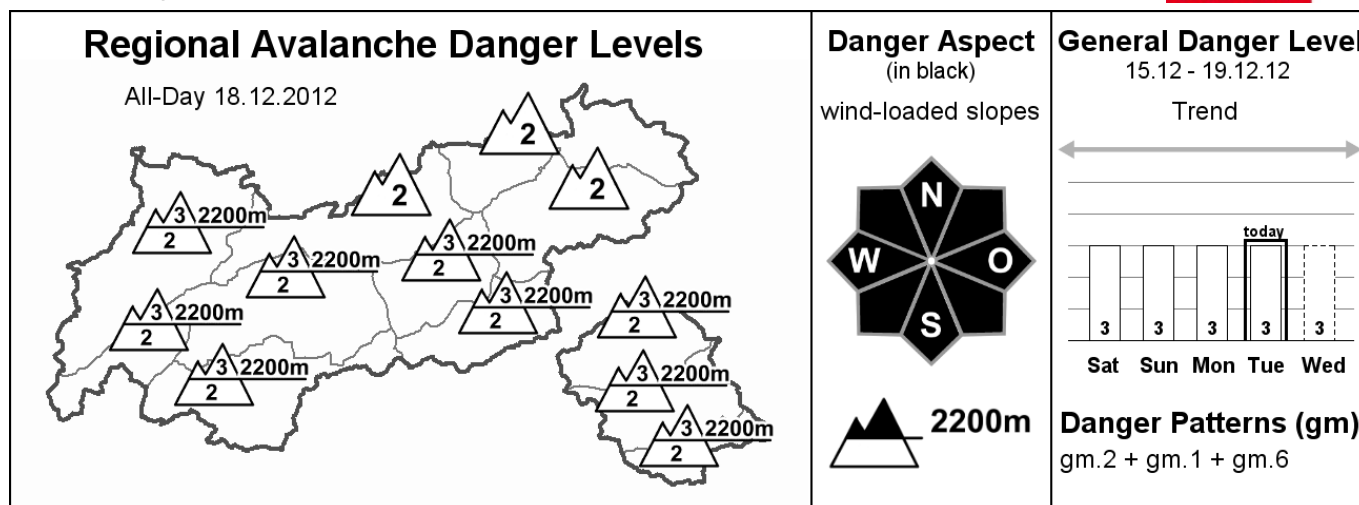


# Avalanche Bulletin

## of the Avalanche Warning Service Tyrol

Tuesday, 18.12.2012, at 07:30



**Full depth snowslides in regions where the snow is deepest - Caution above 2200 m**

### AVALANCHE DANGER

In the Northern and Kitzbühel Alps, moderate danger prevails; in the remaining regions the hazards above 2200 m are considerable, below that altitude moderate. Three dangers currently form the threat. At low and intermediate altitudes in all aspects, but particularly on east to south to west facing slopes, snowslides on steep, grassy slopes are a hazard. Caution is urged below glide cracks in the snow cover! Above about 2200 m, especially on west to north to east facing slopes south of the Arlberg-Ausserfern region, along the Main Alpine Ridge, in the northern Ötztal and Stubai Alps, the Tux Alps and in East Tirol, slab avalanches can be triggered even by minimum additional loading. Lastly, fresh snow drift accumulations, particularly above 2400 m on northeast to east to south facing slopes, require special caution.

### SNOW LAYERING

In western and northern regions there was 10 to 20 cm of snowfall. In the remaining parts of Tirol there was 10 cm, in East Tirol no snowfall whatsoever. Over the course of the day, the wind will intensify at high altitudes, which will give rise to newly drifted snow masses. In general, the snow cover settled and stabilized well during the days of higher temperatures. But it also became increasingly moist, which favours sluffs and snowslides on steep, grassy slopes. The most crucial weak layer inside the snowpack is currently in the more southerly regions above 2200 m on west to north to east facing slopes, where faceted snow crystals, a rain crust and depth hoar formed in autumn. The bonding between these layers is generally quite poor.

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

Mountain weather today: In the Northern Alps heavily overcast for the most part, amidst frequent snow showers. On the Main Alpine Ridge, less snowfall and intermittently sunny. On the southern flank of the Alps, dry and quite sunny today. By Wednesday morning, 10 to 20 cm of snowfall is expected, most of it on the Arlberg and in the Lechtal Alps to the Karwendel and Rofan. Temperature at 2000 m; minus 6 degrees; at 3000 m, minus 12 degrees. Moderate northwesterly winds, stronger in high alpine regions. Weather in general: a low over the Baltic Sea is bringing moist, cold air masses from the northwest to the northern flank of the Alps. Tomorrow, the northwesterly airstream will be penetrated by a high. On Thursday, an intermediate high will dominate before a warm front brings precipitation from the west on Friday.

### SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

Strong northwesterly winds will give rise to new snow drift accumulations at high altitudes.

Patrick Nairz

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe