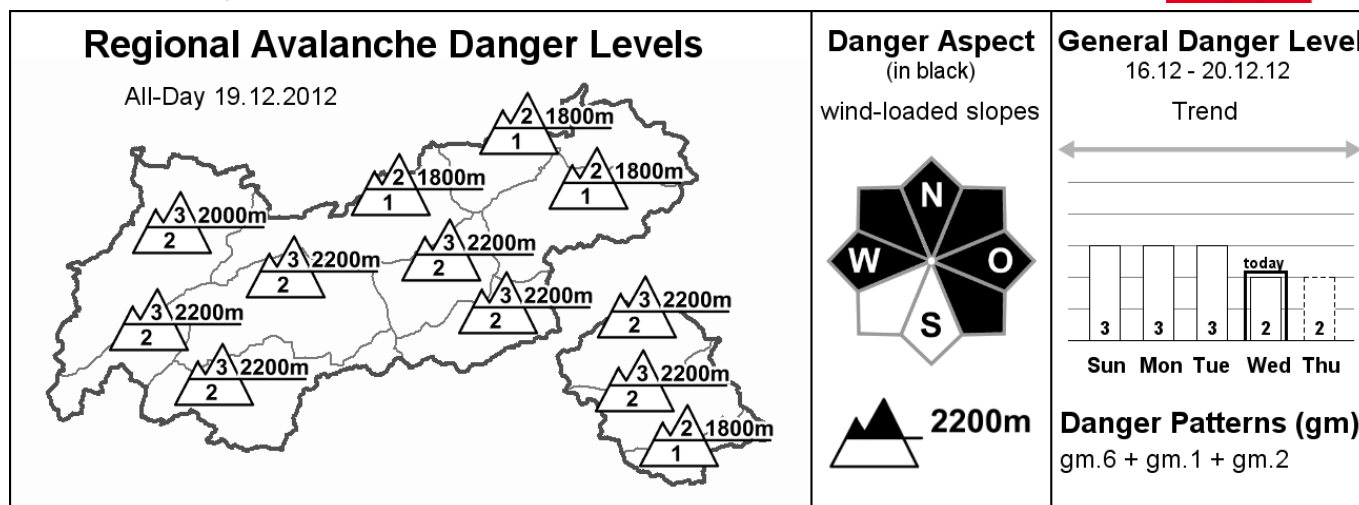


# Avalanche Bulletin

## of the Avalanche Warning Service Tyrol

Wednesday, 19.12.2012, at 07:30



**Trigger sensitive snow drift accumulations frequently covered by loosely packed snow**

### AVALANCHE DANGER

The avalanche danger in some regions remains considerable above approximately 2200 m, below that altitude moderate. In the Northern and Kitzbühel Alps and the East Tyrolean Dolomites, the danger is moderate above the tree line, below it low. Particularly in the western regions where snowfall has been heaviest, caution towards freshly formed snow drift accumulations is imperative today. They occur most often above approximately 2000 m in north to east to south facing terrain adjacent to ridge lines. The frequency and spread of these drifted masses tend to increase with ascending altitude. Caution: loosely packed new fallen snow frequently blankets the drifted masses, which makes it difficult to recognize them. In the southern half of the Arlberg-Ausserfern region, in Silvretta-Samnaun, the Ötztal, Stubai, Tux and Zillertal Alps, as well as in the East Tyrolean Tauern and central East Tirol above approximately 2200m on west to north to east facing slopes, slab avalanches can still be triggered in the old snow cover even by minimum additional loading. Isolated full depth snowslides are still possible, especially at low and intermediate altitudes where the snowpack is deepest. Caution is urged beneath glide cracks in the snow cover.

### SNOW LAYERING

Excluding in East Tirol, there was once again 5 to 10 cm of snowfall, in Ausserfern as much as 15 cm. The wind slackened off during the course of the day, which means that loosely packed new fallen snow now blankets over the recently formed drifted masses. One crucial factor is the quite prevalent weak layer near rain crusts which formed at the beginning of November. It is to be found particularly in the more southerly regions above approximately 2200 m on west to north to east facing slopes. Stability tests have shown it to be highly prone to triggering.

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

Mountain weather today: final showers are slackening off, residual cloud will swiftly disperse from the west, although eastwards of the Zillertal Alps it could stay cloudy until this evening. Elsewhere in North, South and East Tirol it will be a sunny day, only slightly disturbed by high altitude cloud. Mild temperatures and light winds at high altitudes. Temperature at 2000 m: minus 5 degrees; at 3000 m: minus 12 degrees. Light to moderate velocity northwesterly winds. Weather in general: An intermediate high is approaching from the west, slowly pushing the clouds away or dispersing them. In western regions of North Tirol, in South Tirol and in the south of East Tirol, sunshine will soon dominate. In the Lower Inn Valley of North Tirol, the cloud might persist for longer.

### SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

No significant change in the situation.

Patrick Nairz

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe