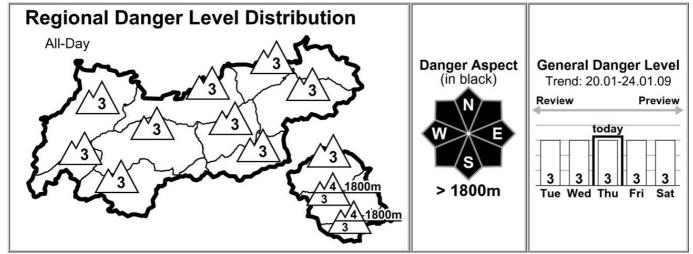
Avalanche Bulletin

of the Avalanche Warning Service Tyrol Thursday, 22.01.2009, at 07:30





CONSIDERABLE AVALANCHE DANGER FAR AND WIDE

AVALANCHE DANGER

In Tyrol's touring regions, conditions currently prevail which make experience imperative. The avalanche danger is considerable widespread. Avalanche prone locations are to be found on steep slopes, in snowdrifted gullies and bowls and in areas adjacent to ridge lines in all aspects above approximately 1800 m. Slab avalanches can still be triggered by minimum additional loading; even the weight of a single backcountry skier or freerider is sufficient to unleash one. Since the danger spots are currently often blanketed in new snow, experience in the assessment of avalanche dangers is required. Isolated natural avalanches can be expected, particularly on slopes which are sunbathed in the course of the day.

SNOW LAYERING

Over the last 24 hours there has been 5 to 10 cm of new snow widespread in Tyrol. Winds have been generally light to moderate, noteworthy new snowdrift accumulations have not formed. However, caution must be exercised towards the fresh new snow which covers over older snowdrift accumulations, making them difficult to recognize in open terrain. New snow and snowdrift of recent days lie atop a generally loosely packed old snowpack whose bonding is still quite poor. The snowpack's proneness to triggering is evidenced both by glide cracks and by whumpfing sounds.

ALPINE WEATHER FORECAST (ZAMG-WEATHER SERVICE INNSBRUCK)

Weather today: the low over Italy has weakened and moved on, today the influence of a weak high pressure zone will make itself felt. But as early as tomorrow, a hefty disturbance will arrive from the west. Mountain weather today: visibility will be partially impeded by fog and clouds to begin with, but they will later disperse and the sun will come out, beginning in the higher peaks and in South Tyrol's mountains. During the course of the day, temperatures will rise noticeably. Temperature at 2000 m: minus 9 to minus 3 degrees and rising; at 3000 m: minus 15 to minus 9 degrees. Light to moderate southerly to easterly winds.

SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

Considerable avalanche danger continues widespread.

Rudi Mair

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe



