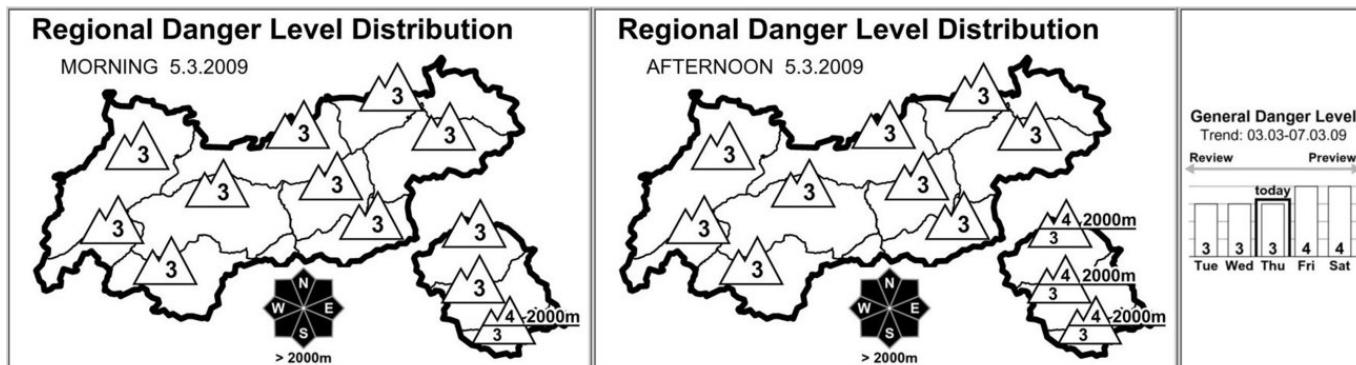


# Avalanche Bulletin

## of the Avalanche Warning Service Tyrol

Thursday, 05.03.2009, at 07:30



## AVALANCHE DANGER SURGES IN EAST TYROL AND ON MAIN ALPINE RIDGE DUE TO HEAVY SNOWFALL

### AVALANCHE DANGER

Unfavourable conditions prevail widespread in Tyrol's backcountry touring regions, amid considerable avalanche danger. In East Tyrol, the danger will reach level 4, "high", in many places over the course of the day due to heavy snowfall. Avalanche prone locations are to be found on steep slopes in all aspects above approximately 2000 m. Freshly formed snowdrift accumulations in particular require only minimum additional loading to trigger an avalanche. Avalanche prone locations will increase in frequency during the day. In East Tyrol, the danger level is already "high" in southern regions, other regions will escalate to this level one by one. Medium and even large sized natural avalanches can then be expected, which will also endanger transportation routes.

### SNOW LAYERING

Last night it began to snow in East Tyrol. On the Carnic Ridge there was up to 40 cm of new snow; further towards the Tauern Ridge, about 20 cm. Additional heavy snowfall is still anticipated in East Tyrol before tomorrow. Along the Main Alpine Ridge there was generally 10 to 20 cm of new snow, further to the north there was no new snow. Strong to stormy southerly winds reigned yesterday, creating vast new snowdrift accumulations. The bonding of the snowdrift to the old snowpack is poor in general. In addition, loose, unbonded layers are often embedded in the old snowpack which serve as potential bed surfaces for avalanches.

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

General weather conditions: a low over northern Italy is bringing rain and snow which will spread to North Tyrol, then will continue tomorrow and Saturday amid northerly air currents. The precipitation will increasingly focus on North Tyrol. Mountain weather today: by Friday up to 50 cm of new snow is expected from the back Ötztal Alps over the Dolomites to the Carnic Ridge. There will be less snowfall in the northern massifs. From the Rofan to the Wilder Kaiser it will remain relatively dry, although visibility will be impeded by the diffuse light. Temperatures are expected to fall. Temperature at 2000 m: minus 4 degrees; at 3000 m: minus 8 degrees. Brisk southeasterly winds, in the Hohe Tauern winds will be strong, later shifting to northeasterly and tapering off.

### SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

Escalating avalanche danger, also in northern regions.

Rudi Mair

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe