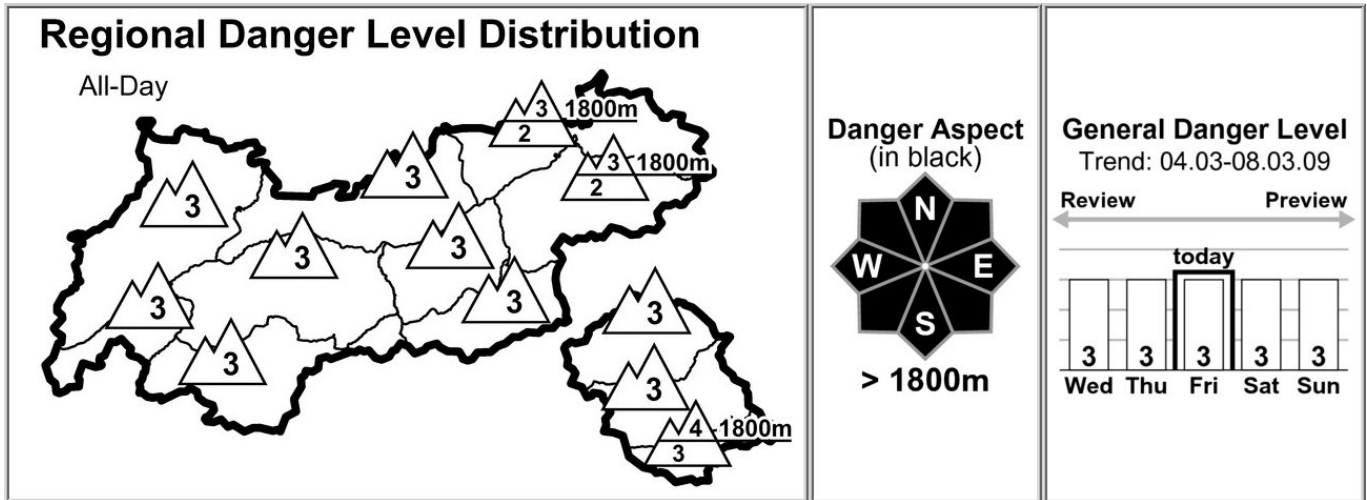


Avalanche Bulletin

of the Avalanche Warning Service Tyrol

Friday, 06.03.2009, at 07:30



AVALANCHE DANGER CONSIDERABLE WIDESPREAD, IN SOUTHERN EAST TYROL DANGER IS HIGH

AVALANCHE DANGER

The avalanche danger in Tyrol's backcountry touring regions is considerable far and wide. Avalanche prone locations are to be found on steep slopes in all expositions above approximately 1800 m. Particularly the freshly formed snowdrift accumulations can be triggered with relative ease, even by minimum additional loading. High caution is urged in transitions from windblown areas into drifted terrain, here the snowpack is most trigger sensitive. At lower and intermediate altitudes, naturally triggered full depth snowslides and wet avalanches are expected today, which in regions which have had heavy snowfall can also places exposed parts of transportation routes at risk in isolated cases.

SNOW LAYERING

From Thursday night until this morning in southern East Tyrol, there has been up to 50 cm of new snow, in remaining East Tyrol and on the main Stubai and Ötztal ridge there was 20 to 30 cm, elsewhere less. In low lying areas, rain has made the snowpack thoroughly wet. New, usually small sized snowdrift accumulations have formed in high alpine regions in particular. The bonding of freshly formed and older snowdrift to the old snowpack is still quite inadequate. Particularly in the inneralpine touring regions, beware the loose, unbonded layers which are embedded inside the old snowpack, which can serve as bed surfaces for avalanches.

ALPINE WEATHER FORECAST (ZAMG-WEATHER SERVICE INNSBRUCK)

General weather conditions: a low over Italy is supplying the Alps with moist air masses. On Saturday, clouds will cling to the barrier of the northern flank of the Alps, while northerly foehn winds are anticipated in South and East Tyrol. On Sunday, a brief improvement in conditions is expected. Mountain weather today: clouds will dominate the weather in the mountains. On the Arlberg and in Ausserfern, 10 to 20 cm of new snow is expected by tomorrow morning; elsewhere on the northern flank of the Alps, about 10 cm; in inneralpine regions and on the southern flank of the Alps, 5 cm. Temperature at 2000 m: minus 6 degrees; at 3000 m: minus 10 degrees. Moderate to strong northwesterly winds.

SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

Snowfall in northern regions, avalanche danger continues to be considerable

Rudi Mair

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe