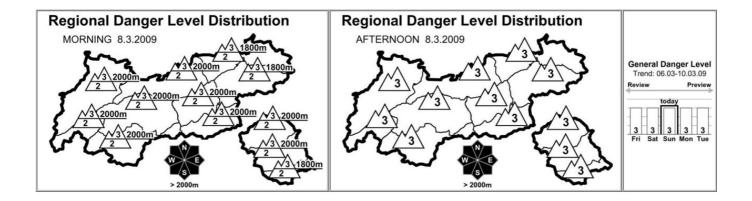
Avalanche Bulletin

of the Avalanche Warning Service Tyrol Sunday, 08.03.2009, at 07:30





AVALANCHE DANGER CONSIDERABLE WIDESPREAD - BEWARE ESCALATING HAZARDS IN DAYTIME CYCLE

AVALANCHE DANGER

The avalanche danger in Tyrol's backcountry touring regions remains considerable widespread above the treeline. Avalanche prone locations are to be found on steep slopes in all aspects above approximately 2000 m. Freshly formed snowdrift accumulations in particular can be easily triggered, even by the weight of a single backcountry skier or freerider. Caution: the strong westerly winds will transport snow again today. Below about 2000 m, the avalanche danger will generally be moderate during the morning hours. However, as of late morning, the daytime warming cycle and solar radiation will cause it to rise. Natural full depth snowslides and wet snow avalanches can then be expected which will endanger exposed transportation routes.

SNOW LAYERING

Yesterday there was up to 10 cm of new snow, especially at the northern alpine barrier; in North Tyrol's remaining regions and on East Tyrol's Tauern ridge there was less. Predominantly strong northwesterly to northerly winds brought about new snowdrift accumulations primarily above the treeline. New snow and snowdrift are poorly bonded with the old snowpack in general and can be triggered with relative ease. In addition, in inneralpine touring regions in particular, loosely packed, unbonded layers are embedded inside the old snowpack consisting of faceted snow crystals which are prone to triggering. They can easily serve as bed surfaces for avalanches.

ALPINE WEATHER FORECAST (ZAMG-WEATHER SERVICE INNSBRUCK)

General weather conditions: a short interim of high pressure weather, then tonight a new cold front from the northwest will reach the Alps. Mountain weather today: high altitude clouds will not impede the pleasures of backcountry tours on the northern or southern flanks of the Alps today, but in late afternoon visibility will be become diffuse due to clouds moving in. The freezing level will rise to about 1900 m by noon. Temperature at 2000 m: minus 7 to minus 1 degree and rising; at 3000 m: minus 12 to minus 7 degrees. Strong westerly winds.

SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

Considerable avalanche danger widespread persists, due to the new snow.

Rudi Mair

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe

