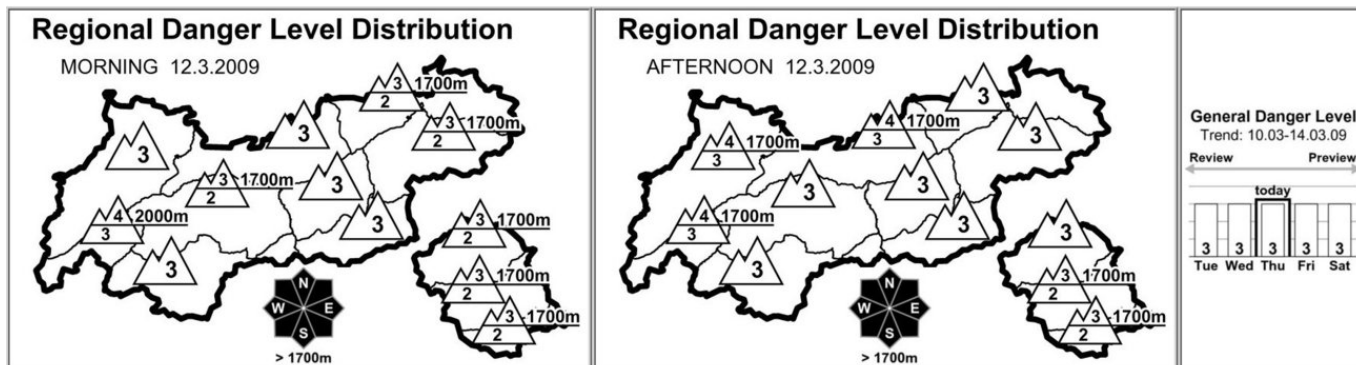


# Avalanche Bulletin

## of the Avalanche Warning Service Tyrol

Thursday, 12.03.2009, at 07:30



## UNFAVOURABLE CONDITIONS - AVALANCHE DANGER CONSIDERABLE - DANGER LEVEL TO RISE DURING THE DAY

### AVALANCHE DANGER

The avalanche danger escalates significantly with increasing altitude: above 1700 m it is considerable widespread. Below that altitude it is moderate, except in the regions of North Tyrol with lots of new snow, where it is also considerable. Warm air masses over the course of the day will escalate the danger level to high, particularly in northwestern regions this afternoon; on west-northwest to north to east-northeast steep slopes, primarily between 1700 and 2700 m natural avalanches can be expected which can also attain large size and imperil exposed transportation routes. This is especially the case in the Tux, Stubai, Ötztal and Zillertal Alps. In addition, particularly above the treeline are huge snowdrift accumulations which can be unleashed both by solar radiation and minimum additional loading. The upshot: for backcountry skiers and freeriders, thoroughly unfavourable conditions above 1700 m, making experience in assessing avalanche hazards imperative. In southern East Tyrol conditions are better, but caution is urged towards fresh snowdrift.

### SNOW LAYERING

Over the last 24 hours it snowed again. From Ausserfern over the Northern, Tux and Zillertal Alps, there was generally 20-30 cm of new snow, up to 50 cm in isolated cases. In remaining North Tyrol and in northern East Tyrol there was generally 10 cm. The winds slackened off. The major factor today will be the anticipated rise in temperature combined with moist air masses, which could drastically weaken the snowpack, particularly on west-northwest to north to east-northeast facing slopes, where the snowpack is already poor. A weak layer of loose crystals full of air spaces from mid-January is a potential bed surface. Freshly formed snowdrift accumulations are adequately bonded up to 1800 m, but above that altitude their bonding with the snowpack is poor.

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

General weather conditions: a brief improvement followed by a warm front from the northwest, after which the northerly to northwesterly front will continue. On Saturday it will be temporarily mild and dry. Mountain weather today: low level clouds persist, but will slowly disperse, then in the Upper Inn Valley and Ausserfern, dense cloudbanks will arrive during the morning, leaving only the summits free. During the afternoon, the clouds will descend further and from the northwest snowfall is anticipated as far as the Main Alpine Ridge. South thereof it will be sunnier for longer, with high altitude clouds in the afternoon. Moderate westerly to northerly winds which will gain in strength in high alpine regions. Temperature at 2000 m: minus 9 to minus 3 degrees; in 3000 m: minus 16 to minus 8 degrees and rising.

### SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

Ongoing unfavourable conditions. On Saturday, sharp rise in temperatures.

Patrick Nairz

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe