

Avalanche Bulletin

of the Avalanche Warning Service Tyrol

Tuesday, 17.03.2009, at 07:30



Allgemeine Gefahrenstufe: 2

R2 Westliche Nordalpen	am: < 2400m 2 , > 2400m 2 pm: < 2400m 3 , > 2400m 2	R1 Arlberg-Außerfern	am: < 2400m 2 , > 2400m 2 pm: < 2400m 3 , > 2400m 2
R4 Silvretta-Samnaun	am: < 2400m 2 , > 2400m 2 pm: < 2400m 3 , > 2400m 2	R3 Östliche Nordalpen	am: < 2400m 2 , > 2400m 2 pm: < 2400m 3 , > 2400m 2
R6 Tuxer Alpen	am: < 2400m 2 , > 2400m 2 pm: < 2400m 3 , > 2400m 2	R5 Nördliche Ötzaler und Stubai Alpen	am: < 2400m 2 , > 2400m 2 pm: < 2400m 3 , > 2400m 2
R8 Südliche Ötztaler und Stubai Alpen	am: < 2400m 2 , > 2400m 2 pm: < 2400m 3 , > 2400m 2	R7 Kitzbüheler Alpen	am: < 2400m 2 , > 2400m 2 pm: < 2400m 3 , > 2400m 2
R10 Osttiroler Tauern	am: < 2400m 2 , > 2400m 2 pm: < 2400m 3 , > 2400m 2	R9 Zillertaler Alpen	am: < 2400m 2 , > 2400m 2 pm: < 2400m 3 , > 2400m 2
R12 Osttiroler Dolomiten	am: < 2400m 2 , > 2400m 2 pm: < 2400m 3 , > 2400m 2	R11 Zentral Osttirol	am: < 2400m 2 , > 2400m 2 pm: < 2400m 3 , > 2400m 2

Avalanche prone locations (am): N,NO,W,NW>2200

Avalanche prone locations (pm): O,SO,S,SW,<2400

FAVOURABLE TOURING CONDITIONS THIS MORNING, MODERATE AVALANCHE DANGER - INCREASING LATER!

AVALANCHE DANGER

In Tyrol's backcountry touring regions, springlike conditions begin to make themselves felt: favourable conditions amid moderate danger this morning, later escalating avalanche hazards. Avalanche prone locations for dry, slab avalanches are on west to north to east facing steep slopes above 2200 m in particular, but slab avalanches usually require large additional loading to be triggered, i.e. if a group of skiers enters the slope simultaneously. The transitions from little to lots of snow are the most perilous. From late morning, the danger of avalanches will rapidly increase; particularly on strongly sun-bathed slopes below about 2400 m, wet snow avalanches and full depth snowslides will be naturally triggered.

SNOW LAYERING

Last night was generally clear, the snowpack radiated outwardly and thereby consolidated on the surface. From late morning, the daytime warming and solar radiation will cause it to forfeit much of its firmness. Caution towards the unfavourable snow layering in shady, high alpine regions, where loose, faceted snow crystal layers are often embedded; they are trigger sensitive and provide a bed surface for avalanches.

ALPINE WEATHER FORECAST (ZAMG-WEATHER SERVICE INNSBRUCK)

General weather conditions: a northerly to northeasterly airstream is supplying mild air to the Alps. On Thursday night, a low over Eastern Europe will arrive, bringing much lower temperatures. Mountain weather today: the further west and south you go, the more sunshine you get. Cloudbanks will sweep in from the north over the course of the day. Between Kaiser Massif, Kitzbühel Alps and Rofan Massif they will be most dense; this afternoon there may be fog and light snow flurries, snowfall level initially at 1400 m. Elsewhere the summits will remain free of clouds. Temperature at 2000 m: minus 2 to plus 1 degree; at 3000 m: minus 6 degrees. Moderate northerly winds, this afternoon in East Tyrol the winds will be strong.

SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

Still favourable conditions, though avalanche danger will rise during the day.

Rudi Mair

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe