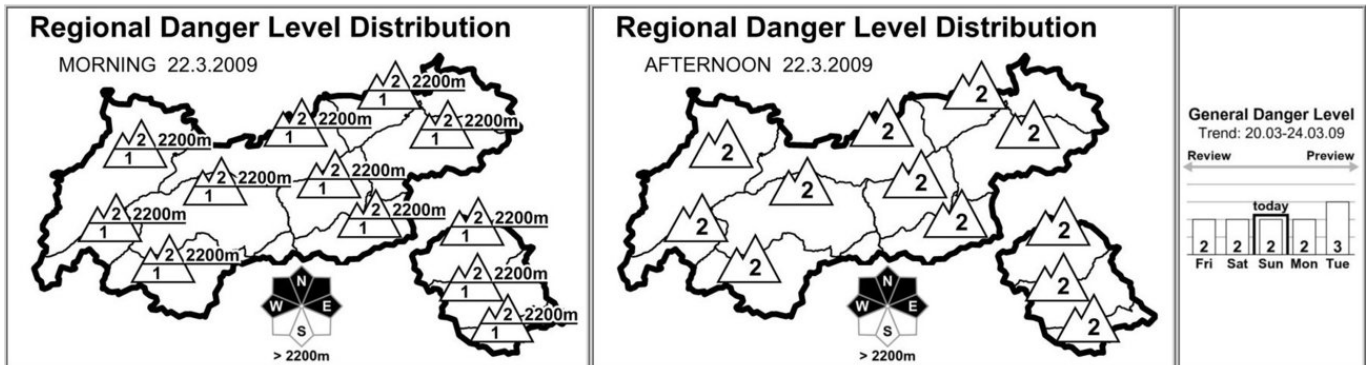


Avalanche Bulletin

of the Avalanche Warning Service Tyrol

Sunday, 22.03.2009, at 07:30



MODERATE AVALANCHE DANGER WIDESPREAD - BEWARE RISING DANGER IN DAYTIME CYCLE!

AVALANCHE DANGER

Favourable conditions prevail widespread in Tyrol's backcountry touring regions, with moderate avalanche danger. The major hazard stems from freshly formed, rather flat snowdrift accumulations which can be easily triggered. Avalanche prone locations are to be found on west to north to east facing steep slopes above approximately 2200 m. Great caution is urged particularly in transitions from areas with little snow to areas with lots of snow, e.g. traversing windblown surfaces into drifted gullies and bowls. From late morning on sunny slopes below about 2400 m, the avalanche danger will increase somewhat. Naturally triggered loose snow and wet snow avalanches will be the result.

SNOW LAYERING

Moderate to strong northeasterly winds in high alpine regions and areas adjacent to ridge lines in particular have led to new, small sized snowdrift accumulations. New snow and snowdrift from the most recent period of precipitation cover a generally quite well settled and consolidated old snowpack. Caution is urged nonetheless, since the bonding of the fresh, rather small snowdrift accumulations with the surface of the old snowpack is often quite poor, making it very trigger sensitive. In addition, especially on shady slopes, loose, unbonded layers are still embedded inside the snowpack which can serve as bed surfaces for avalanches.

ALPINE WEATHER FORECAST (ZAMG-WEATHER SERVICE INNSBRUCK)

General weather conditions: between two small sized disturbances in the early morning and in the evening, an intermediate high pressure zone will make itself felt during the day today. This week, a moist and windy northwesterly airstream will supply Tyrol with highly variable conditions. Mountain weather today: between two disturbances, one in the morning, one in the evening, we will enjoy sunshine today. On the southern flank of the Alps it will also be sunny, but as of midday the northerly winds will be stormy. Temperature at 2000 m: minus 9 to minus 4 degrees; at 3000 m: minus 11 degrees. Moderate northerly winds in the morning, increasing to strong this afternoon.

SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

As of Tuesday, escalating avalanche danger due to new snow and winds.

Rudi Mair

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe