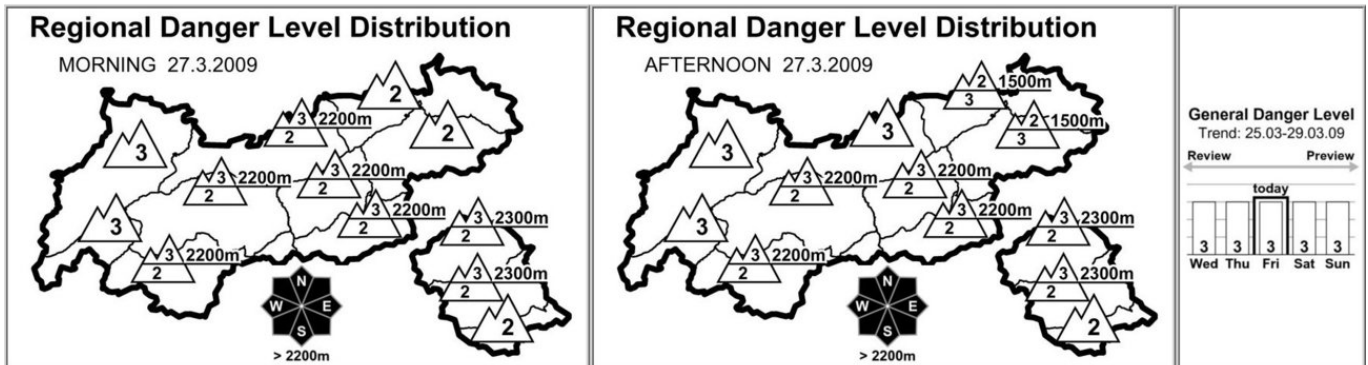


# Avalanche Bulletin

## of the Avalanche Warning Service Tyrol

Friday, 27.03.2009, at 07:30



## CONSIDERABLE DANGER ABOVE 2200 M. DECREASING SNOW FIRMNESS BELOW 1500 M DUE TO RAIN.

### AVALANCHE DANGER

The avalanche danger is contingent upon altitude: below about 1500 m, due to rainfall in North Tyrol's western regions, considerable danger prevails; from 1500 to 2200 m the danger is moderate; above that altitude, the danger again rises to considerable. During the day, the snowpack will be weakened by rain in low lying areas, even in eastern regions, thus creating small sized wet snowslides, in western regions somewhat larger. Isolated full depth snowslides are also possible on steep meadows. Above approximately 2200 m, beware recent snowdrift accumulations, which are most trigger sensitive on shady, steep slopes. Above 2500 m they are also found in other expositions, particularly near ridge lines and behind sharp breaks in the terrain. On steep, west-northwest to north to east-northeast facing slopes between 2000 and 2600 m, moreover, the snowpack can be triggered by large additional loading, most easily of all in transitions from little to lots of snow.

### SNOW LAYERING

Yesterday the snowpack settled and consolidated well, due to intense solar radiation. The temperature rise and rainfall in some regions of North Tyrol is now causing the snowpack to lose its firmness below about 1500 m. Above that altitude, the snowpack is well layered. Only above 2000 m is there on shady slopes a loosely packed, faceted layer from mid-January which can serve as a bed surface for avalanches. Above about 2200 m, fresh snowdrift - to begin with on shady slopes and above 2500 m in all expositions - is poorly bonded with the old snowpack in places. With increasing altitude, the snowdrift's proneness to triggering increases. However, these snowdrift masses are easy to recognise.

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

General weather conditions: the air current is shifting today from the westerly North Sea low gradually to southwesterly. Foehn influence will make itself felt in North Tyrol. On Sunday, a Mediterranean low will again dominate, with rainfall expected primarily on the southern flank of the Alps. Thereafter, a high will probably gain the upper hand. Mountain weather today: from the Lechtal Alps to the Wilder Kaiser, snow showers during the morning, towards the Main Alpine Ridge improving conditions and foehn-created bright spells. From the Ortler to the Lienz Dolomites, dry and quite sunny in the morning, overcast this afternoon, isolated snow flurries near ridge lines. Temperature at 2000 m: minus 2 degrees and rising; at 3000 m: minus 8 degrees. Along the Northern Alps, strong westerly winds in places. On the Main Alpine Ridge, brisk southwesterly to southerly winds.

### SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

Generally moderate danger, at high altitudes considerable danger. Loss of snow firmness during the day.

Patrick Nairz

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe