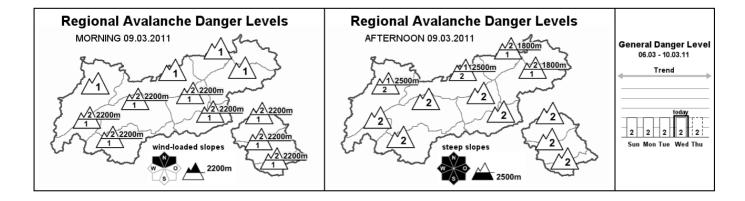
Avalanche Bulletin

of the Avalanche Warning Service Tyrol Wednesday, 09.03.2011, at 07:30





Predominantly favourable backcountry touring conditions, slightly increasing daytime danger

AVALANCHE DANGER

Generally favourable conditions prevail, although the danger will escalate slightly over the course of the day, due to increasing humidity. The danger in the northern regions from the Arlberg over the Northern Alps to the Kitzbühel Alps will be generally low this morning; in remaining Tyrol above 2200 m it will be moderate, below that altitude low. This afternoon the danger below about 2500 m will rise to moderate everywhere. Due to increasing moisture in the atmosphere, the snowpack on steep, intensely sun-drenched slopes will release more wet sluffs. Elsewhere, caution is urged especially on very steep, less frequented, shady slopes above 2200 m. Particularly through large additional loading, isolated small to medium sized avalanches can be triggered. The danger zones are more frequent between 2200 and 2500 m.

SNOW LAYERING

The snowpack is further dispelling its inner tensions. Potential bed surfaces for slab avalanches are primarily the loosely packed, faceted layers, on broad ridges with shallow snow also depth hoar, particularly in shady terrain above 2200 m. The bonding of older snowdrift masses is improving day by day, but there are still isolated areas where avalanches can be triggered. The snowpack surface is becoming more and more irregular: on sunny slopes, a melt freeze crust dominates which is usually capable of bearing loads during the morning hours, at least on steep slopes. On shady slopes and at high altitudes, there is still powder snow to be found, although with ascending altitude wind crusts appear more frequently.

ALPINE WEATHER FORECAST (ZAMG-WEATHER SERVICE INNSBRUCK)

Weather in general: the influence of the high pressure system is weakening. The northwesterly air current will bring a passing disturbance to Tyrol on Thursday, with denser cloud on the northern flank of the Alps. Towards the weekend, a mild southwesterly current will take over, bringing foehn winds to North Tyrol. Mountain weather today: lots of sunshine on the Main Alpine Ridge and in the Southern Alps. From the Wetterstein over the Karwendel and eastwards, as well as in the Tux Alps as far as Gerlos, cloudbanks will hover above summit level to begin with, then disperse. During the night tonight, partially clear skies. Freezing level just under 2000 m. Temperature at 2000 m: minus 1 degree; at 3000 m: minus 8 degrees. Predominantly light northwesterly winds, towards the Lower Inn Valley winds will be of moderate velocity.

SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

No significant change in the situation, possibly lesser daytime increase

Patrick Nairz

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe



