

Avalanche Bulletin

of the Avalanche Warning Service Tyrol

Friday, 08.04.2011, at 07:30



Allgemeine Gefahrenstufe: 3

R2 Westliche Nordalpen	am: < 1600m 1 , > 1600m 3 pm: < 1600m 1 , > 1600m 3	R1 Arlberg-Außerfern	am: < 1600m 1 , > 1600m 3 pm: < 1600m 1 , > 1600m 3
R4 Silvretta-Samnaun	am: < 2800m 3 , > 2800m 3 pm: < 2800m 4 , > 2800m 3	R3 Östliche Nordalpen	am: < 1600m 1 , > 1600m 3 pm: < 1600m 1 , > 1600m 3
R6 Tuxer Alpen	am: < 1600m 1 , > 1600m 3 pm: < 1600m 1 , > 1600m 3	R5 Nördliche Ötzaler und Stubai- Alpen	am: < 1600m 1 , > 1600m 3 pm: < 1600m 1 , > 1600m 3
R8 Südliche Ötztaler und Stubai- Alpen	am: < 2800m 3 , > 2800m 3 pm: < 2800m 4 , > 2800m 3	R7 Kitzbüheler Alpen	am: < 2800m 1 , > 2800m 3 pm: < 2800m 1 , > 2800m 3
R10 Osttiroler Tauern	am: < 2800m 3 , > 2800m 3 pm: < 2800m 4 , > 2800m 3	R9 Zillertaler Alpen	am: < 2800m 3 , > 2800m 3 pm: < 2800m 4 , > 2800m 3
R12 Osttiroler Dolomiten	am: < 1600m 1 , > 1600m 3 pm: < 1600m 1 , > 1600m 3	R11 Zentral Osttirol	am: < 2800m 3 , > 2800m 3 pm: < 2800m 4 , > 2800m 3

Avalanche prone locations (am): N,NO,O,SO,S,SW,W,NW<2800

Avalanche prone locations (pm): N,NO,O,SO,S,SW,W,NW>1600

Generally unfavourable conditions except in high alpine regions, high danger in some places!

AVALANCHE DANGER

The avalanche danger level is contingent on altitude and will significantly rise during the day. Even during the morning below 2800 m, considerable danger prevails. From the early afternoon, the peril, at very least in the regions along the Main Alpine Ridge below 2800 m, will increase to "high". Similar to what happened yesterday in late afternoon there will be increased naturally triggered avalanches, mainly wet snow avalanches from very steep, west to north to east facing slopes, but also some large sized slab avalanches. In wind-influenced areas, the situation is more favourable, with naturally triggered avalanches unlikely. Except for high alpine regions, generally unfavourable for backcountry tours, not only with regard to the danger, but also the snow quality. Below 1600 m, the danger is low, due to much reduced snow levels.

SNOW LAYERING

The snowpack is disappearing apace, the amounts of snow are far below average for this juncture in the season. The snowpack becomes wetter and wetter, even on north facing slopes up to about 2300 m it is wet down to the ground. In high alpine regions, the snowpack can consolidate somewhat overnight, particularly in windy areas, but generally loses much of its firmness during the day. A potential bed surface for slab avalanches is a moist layer of old depth hoar, especially on west to north to east facing slopes between 2800 and 2200 m.

ALPINE WEATHER FORECAST (ZAMG-WEATHER SERVICE INNSBRUCK)

Weather in general: a high pressure system prevails above western Europe, Tyrol lies at its rim in a powerful northwesterly air current. On the weekend, the high will become stronger. Next week, a variable westerly air current will gradually take hold. Mountain weather today: somewhat limited visibility this morning, particularly in the Northern Alps, and around the Wilder Kaiser, where short showers are possible. Over the Zillertal Alps and East Tyrolean peaks are extensive cloudbanks on the lee side. This afternoon, widespread sunny, only a bit of convective cloud. Temperature at 2000 m: plus 3 to 7 degrees; at 3000 m: minus 3 to plus 1 degree. Brisk northwesterly winds, at higher altitudes the winds will be stormy.

SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

As dry air masses are supplied to Tyrol, the snowpack can consolidate better. Heed the daytime warming cycle!

Patrick Nairz

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe