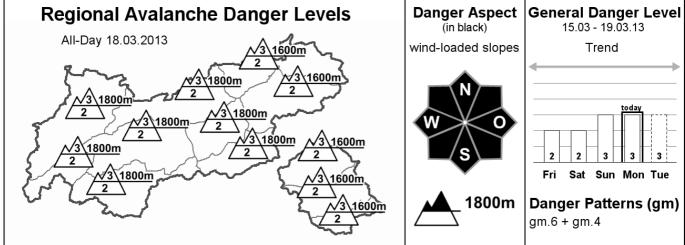
Avalanche Bulletin

of the Avalanche Warning Service Tyrol Monday, 18.03.2013, at 07:30





Considerable avalanche danger widespread. Beware fresh snowdrift!

AVALANCHE DANGER

The avalanche danger in Tirol's backcountry touring regions has increased: it is now considerable. The major peril stems from freshly formed snowdrift accumulations which are poorly bonded with the snowpack surface beneath them and thus, can be triggered even by minimum additional loading, i.e. the weight of a single skier or freerider. Danger zones are to be found on wind loaded slopes and ridgeline areas in all aspects above about 1800m. Frequency and spread of avalanche prone locations tend to increase with ascending altitude. Beware: the heavy snowfall will heighten avalanche danger during the day in East Tirol and on the Main Ridge.

SNOW LAYERING

Over the last 24 hours there has been a bit of snowfall in East Tirol and along the Main Alpine Ridge. The southerly to southwesterly high altitude winds were strong to stormy, thus giving rise to wide ranging snowdrift accumulations in high alpine regions. The newly drifted snow masses were deposited for the most part on top of a light, loosely packed old snowpack surface, making them prone to triggering. In addition, new, brittle snowdrift accumulations will continue to form during the course of the day today.

ALPINE WEATHER FORECAST (ZAMG-WEATHER SERVICE INNSBRUCK)

Weather: A low pressure zone over the British Isles is spreading eastwards and will encapsulate Tirol today. The foehn will come to an end in North Tirol and a powerful front will bring us precipitation and lower temperatures by Tuesday. Mountain weather today: deeply wintery prospects by tomorrow, mountains veiled in cloud, foehn-induced bright spells between Kitzbühel Alps and Wilder Kaiser will close by midday. Heavy snowfall from the west, most of it in the Hohe Tauern, Carnic Alps, Dolomites and along the Main Alpine Ridge, plus strong to storm strength winds. Temperature at 2000m: minus 6 degrees; at 3000m: minus 11 degrees. Strong to stormy southerly winds this morning, later slackening off and shifting to westerly to northwesterly, then becoming brisker this evening.

SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

Far and wide, considerable avalanche danger

Rudi Mair

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe

