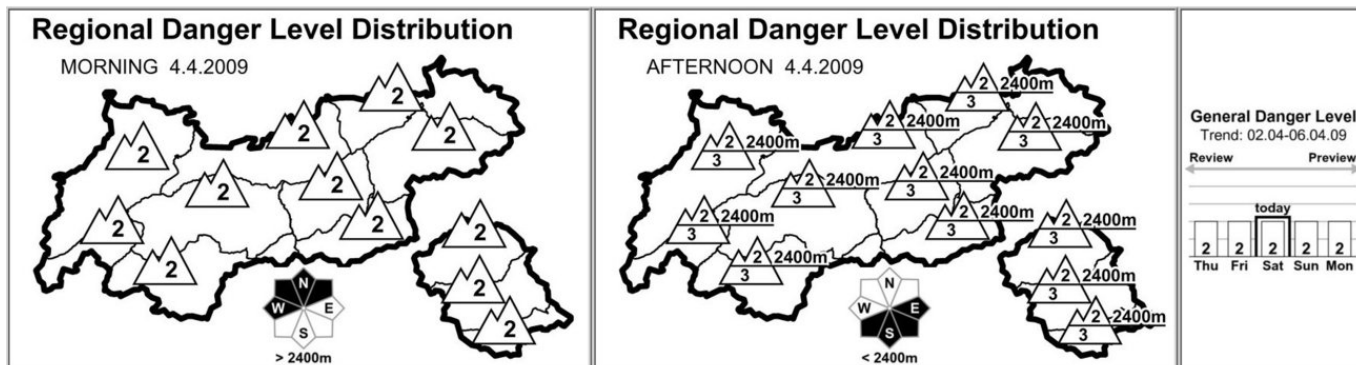


Avalanche Bulletin

of the Avalanche Warning Service Tyrol

Saturday, 04.04.2009, at 07:30



FAVOURABLE TOURING CONDITIONS DURING MORNING, THEN RAPID INCREASE IN AVALANCHE DANGER

AVALANCHE DANGER

In Tyrol's backcountry touring regions, springlike weather continues to reign: safe conditions amid moderate avalanche danger in the morning hours, from late morning a swift rise in avalanche danger. Below about 2400 m the hazards will then be considerable widespread, with natural sluffs, full depth snowslides and wet snow avalanches expected. Particularly in corridors which have not yet discharged, avalanches can attain large size and endanger exposed parts of transportation routes and ascents to huts. Early tours are recommended. Avalanche prone locations for slab avalanches are to be found on steep, west to north to northeast facing slopes and areas adjacent to ridge lines above 2400 m. Particularly transitions from little to lots of snow should be assessed with great caution.

SNOW LAYERING

Following a generally clear night and the consequent outgoing longwave radiation, the snowpack surface was able to firm up. Thus, a melt freeze crust capable of bearing loads is evident widespread this morning, which however will soften rapidly. Daytime warming and solar radiation will cause the snowpack to forfeit its firmness and avalanche activity will be the result. As the snowpack becomes more and more wet, avalanches can fracture even down to the lowermost layers, enabling them to attain large size.

ALPINE WEATHER FORECAST (ZAMG-WEATHER SERVICE INNSBRUCK)

General weather conditions: the Alps lie in the transition zone between a high over northern Central Europe and a low over the Mediterranean. Thus, the air masses even on the northern flank of the Alps will become more moist temporarily. However, Tyrol will enjoy springlike, mild weather in the week before Easter. Mountain weather today: sunshine will be felt, yet April-like variability will reign. Clouds and fog, particularly at higher altitudes, will battle with the sun for predominance. In the latter part of the day, showers are possible, snowfall level at 2000 m. Light winds. Temperature at 2000 m: plus 1 to plus 5 degrees; at 3000 m: minus 7 to minus 4 degrees.

SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

Springlike conditions with rising avalanche danger over the course of the day.

Rudi Mair

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe