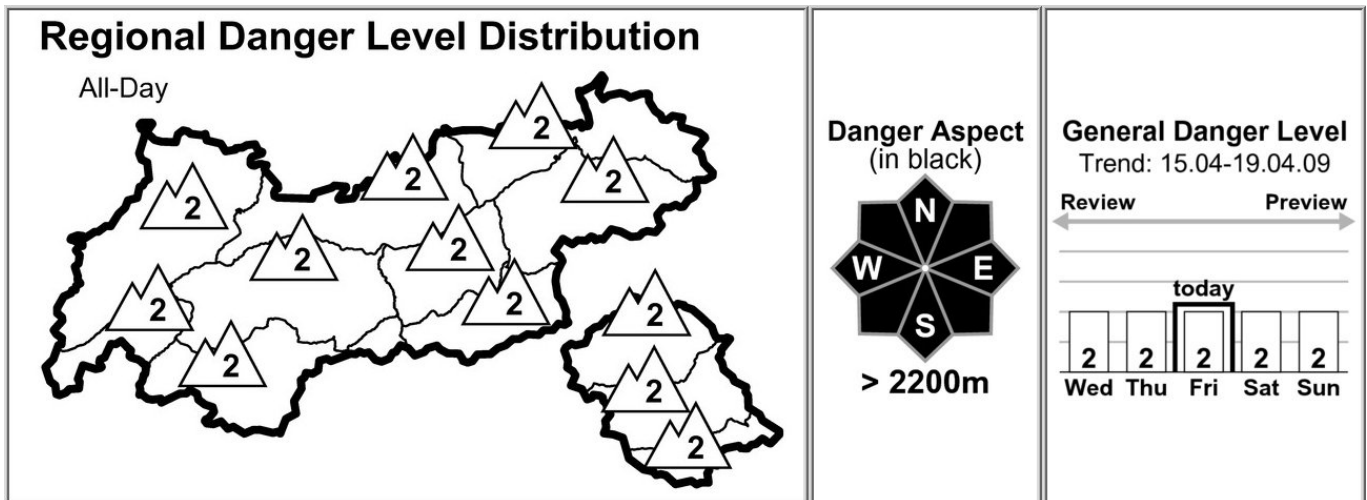


Avalanche Bulletin

of the Avalanche Warning Service Tyrol

Friday, 17.04.2009, at 07:30



MODERATE AVALANCHE DANGER WIDESPREAD

AVALANCHE DANGER

In Tyrol's backcountry touring regions, conditions are not as good as in recent days, i.e. the marvellous firm snow is gone, the avalanche danger is generally moderate. Avalanche prone locations are to be found on steep slopes in all expositions above approximately 2200 m, but released snow masses will usually remain small. To some extent, surface loosely packed snow avalanches are also possible. Below about 2200 m, isolated naturally triggered sluffs and wet snow avalanches can be expected, but the released snow masses will here, too, remain small.

SNOW LAYERING

Yesterday evening, the foehn wind broke down, clouds swept in and precipitation began, with the snowfall level at about 1700 m initially, then dropping to 1300 m. Due to the lack of outgoing longwave radiation, the snowpack could not become firm during the night. The long enduring period of beautiful weather, with mild temperatures and intense solar radiation, made the snowpack moist up to intermediate altitudes. At lower altitudes, rainfall reinforced the wetness of the snowpack still further. In high alpine regions there was widespread 10 cm of new snow, along the Main Alpine Ridge as much as 15 cm, which covers over a generally well settled and consolidated old snowpack.

ALPINE WEATHER FORECAST (ZAMG-WEATHER SERVICE INNSBRUCK)

General weather conditions: from the Atlantic, a high altitude low pressure front has reached Tyrol, bringing a cold front and winds shifting to westerly, including air masses that are colder and wetter. The disturbance will disperse by tomorrow, the air layers will remain somewhat instable over the weekend. Mountain weather today: clouds and fog into the afternoon, with snow showers, which below about 1500 m will be rainfall. Later in the day, the visibility may improve temporarily, but convective cloud will build up rapidly in the bright spells which will again veil the mountain peaks. Local showers are possible during the afternoon on the southern flank of the Alps in particular. Temperature at 2000 m: minus 4 to plus 1 degree; at 3000 m: minus 7 degrees. Moderate westerly winds.

SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

Predominantly moderate avalanche danger.

Rudi Mair

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe