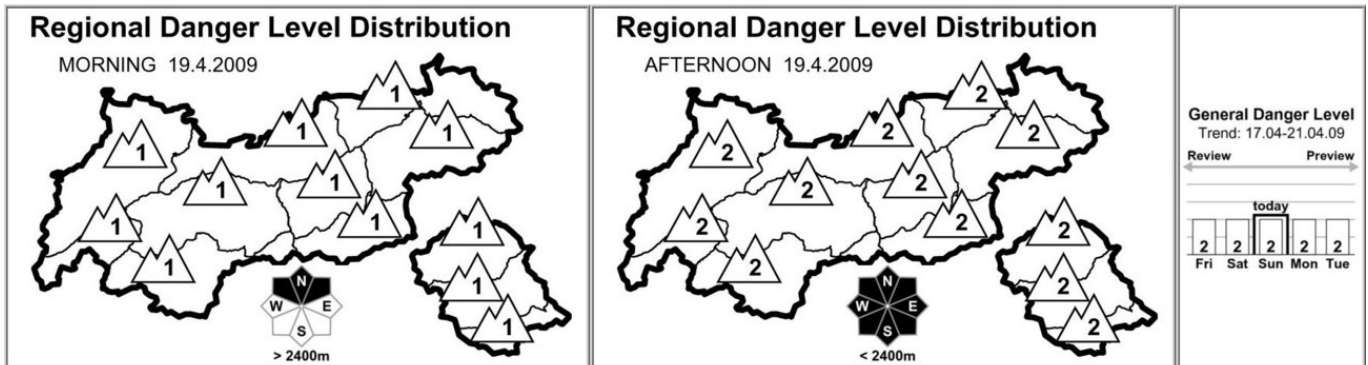


Avalanche Bulletin

of the Avalanche Warning Service Tyrol

Sunday, 19.04.2009, at 07:30



FAVOURABLE BACKCOUNTRY CONDITIONS IN EARLY MORNING - THEN ESCALATING AVALANCHE DANGER

AVALANCHE DANGER

During the early morning hours, favourable backcountry touring conditions prevail, amidst low avalanche danger. As the morning unfolds, the avalanche danger will increase to level "moderate" (2). Primarily below about 2400 m, increasingly frequent naturally triggered moist sluffs and wet snow avalanches can be expected; full depth snowslides are also possible. Isolated avalanche prone locations for dry, slab avalanches can be found on very steep, northwest to north to northeast facing slopes and areas adjacent to ridge lines above approximately 2400 m.

SNOW LAYERING

Following a generally clear night in which the snowpack's outgoing longwave radiation was adequate, a melt freeze crust capable of bearing loads has formed. But the daytime warming cycle and solar radiation will soften the crust during the morning and cause the snowpack to forfeit its firmness. All in all, the snowpack is well settled and consolidated. Dictated by the season, the slopes are becoming more and more bare of snow, the snowline rises visibly each day.

ALPINE WEATHER FORECAST (ZAMG-WEATHER SERVICE INNSBRUCK)

General weather conditions: the low over the western Mediterranean is strengthening, leading to moderately strong southeasterly winds at high altitudes; moist, instable sea air is being fed towards the southern flank of the Alps. The northern flank of the Alps is thus exposed to foehn wind influence. Mountain weather today: lots of sunshine this morning, despite high altitude clouds moving in from the south which will become more dense in the afternoon. Convective will veil the summits somewhat this afternoon, but the freezing level will nonetheless rise towards 2700 m in North Tyrol. It will be more overcast from the Main Alpine Ridge towards the Southern Alps, where as of midday some rain, and snow as of about 1900 m, can be expected. Temperature at 2000 m: zero to plus 6 degrees; at 3000 m: minus 6 to minus 3 degrees. Light to moderate southeasterly winds, in the Northern Alps they will be brisk.

SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

Predominantly moderate avalanche danger

Rudi Mair

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe