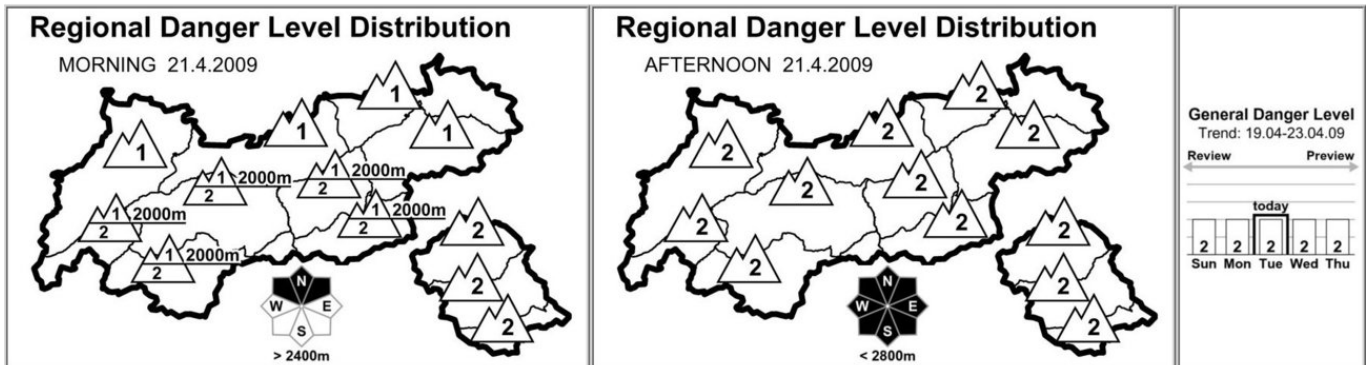


Avalanche Bulletin

of the Avalanche Warning Service Tyrol

Tuesday, 21.04.2009, at 07:30



IN NORTHERN REGIONS MORE FAVOURABLE CONDITIONS THAN IN SOUTH, SUBJECT TO DAYTIME WARMING CYCLE

AVALANCHE DANGER

The avalanche danger in northern regions of North Tyrol will be low widespread during the morning hours today. Further to the south as far as the Main Alpine Ridge the danger below 2000 m is moderate, from 2000 to 2800 m it is low, above 2800 m moderate. In East Tyrol, the danger is generally moderate. A daytime warming cycle will determine the danger again today: from late morning, hazards will rise to moderate everywhere. Backcountry skiers and freeriders can easily trigger wet snow avalanches on sunny slopes and at lower altitudes, and in East Tyrol on sunny, rocky slopes, which in steep terrain can attain large size. Very steep northwest to north to northeast facing slopes above about 2400 m in areas of transition from little to lots of snow are also endangered by large additional loading. Recently formed, though easily recognised, snowdrift accumulations above 3000 m near ridge lines, particularly in west-northwest to north to east-northeast expositions, are also hazardous.

SNOW LAYERING

In northern regions, the snowpack consolidated well during the night. In East Tyrol, the clouds and rain prevented this. The slopes are rapidly becoming bare of snow, the remaining snowpack is moist or thoroughly wet up to intermediate altitudes (on sun-bathed slopes up to 3000 m, beneath a hard surface). Above 2400 m, a faceted layer rippled with melt freeze snow from mid-January can still provide a bed surface for avalanches. In high alpine regions, fresh snowdrift lies atop surface hoar in steep, shady terrain adjacent to ridge lines, thereby increasing its likelihood of triggering.

ALPINE WEATHER FORECAST (ZAMG-WEATHER SERVICE INNSBRUCK)

Mountain weather today: favourable weather conditions can be found in the Northern Alps and in the northern sectors of the Central Alps, where sunshine will be plentiful. Yet convective cloud can cause local showers this afternoon. On the Main Alpine Ridge and in the Southern Alps, instable visibility, often variable cloudiness, occasional showers. Freezing level at 2600 m. Temperature at 2000 m: plus 2 to plus 5 degrees; at 3000 m: minus 3 degrees. Light to moderate easterly winds.

SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

Tuesday night will be generally clear. Quite favourable conditions are expected for tomorrow, with rising dangers subject to a daytime warming cycle.

Patrick Nairz

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe