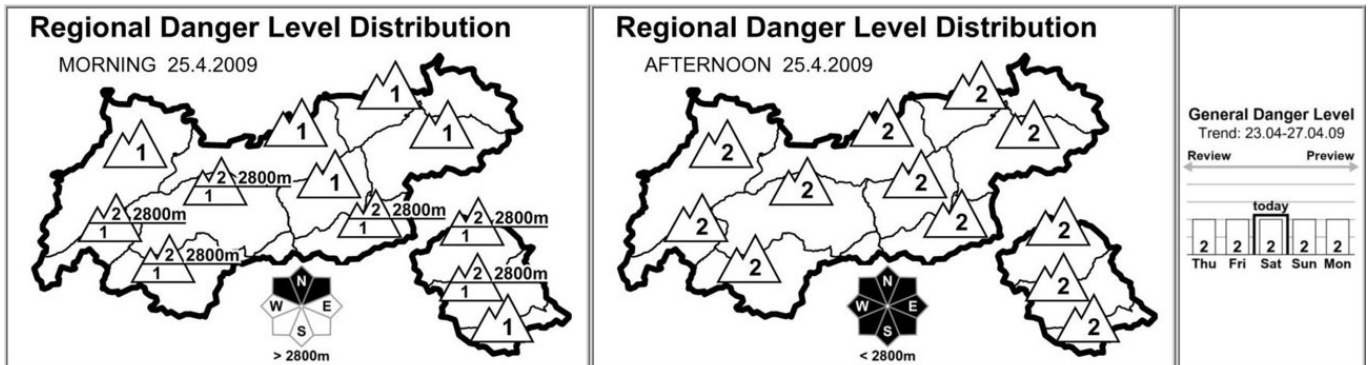


# Avalanche Bulletin

## of the Avalanche Warning Service Tyrol

Saturday, 25.04.2009, at 07:30



## BEWARE SNOWDRIFT ACCUMULATIONS NEAR RIDGE LINES IN HIGH ALPINE REGIONS!

### AVALANCHE DANGER

Favourable conditions dominate in Tyrol's touring regions. Along the Main Alpine Ridge above approximately 2800 m the danger is still moderate, below that altitude and in the other regions the hazards are low until later in the morning. Particular caution is necessary today in high alpine regions: both older and recent snowdrift accumulations can be triggered by large additional loading. On very steep northwest to north to northeast facing slopes near ridge lines above about 3200 m, and to some extent in other expositions, it is hazardous. As the snowpack becomes more moist over the course of the day, the danger will increase to moderate everywhere. Loosely packed snow on extremely steep, sunny slopes below about 2600 m can be released. Wet slides can also be triggered in very steep terrain by a single backcountry skier or freerider. The wind may impede the moistening of the snowpack somewhat.

### SNOW LAYERING

The new snow has settled everywhere and even consolidated well below about 2800 m. Above that altitude there are still weak layers embedded in the snowpack in some areas. Along the Main Alpine Ridge this is the case on shady slopes, where a layer of surface hoar (which is sometimes covered by a thin ice sheet) is a source of danger. In addition, the new snow often has a layer of graupel inside it. Above about 2500 m, furthermore, a faceted layer from mid-January, especially in shady terrain with shallow snow, is also hazardous in isolated cases. In general, the snowpack in low lying areas has a moist or thoroughly wet fundament.

### ALPINE WEATHER FORECAST (ZAMG-WEATHER SERVICE INNSBRUCK)

General weather conditions: the high over Tyrol is still exercising weakening influence, the air current has shifted to southwest and is becoming stronger. Thus, foehn influence is increasing in North Tyrol; in South and East Tyrol, conditions are turning less stable. Mountain weather today: sunshine on the northern and southern flanks of the Main Alpine Ridge, high altitude clouds and mild temperatures. Freezing level at 2700 m. In the Northern Alps it will be very windy in some places. Temperature at 2000 m: zero to plus 6 degrees; at 3000 m: minus 6 to minus 3 degrees. Strong to stormy southerly winds.

### SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

Conditions will be similar to today's. Snowdrift accumulations in high alpine regions are the major danger.

Patrick Nairz

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe