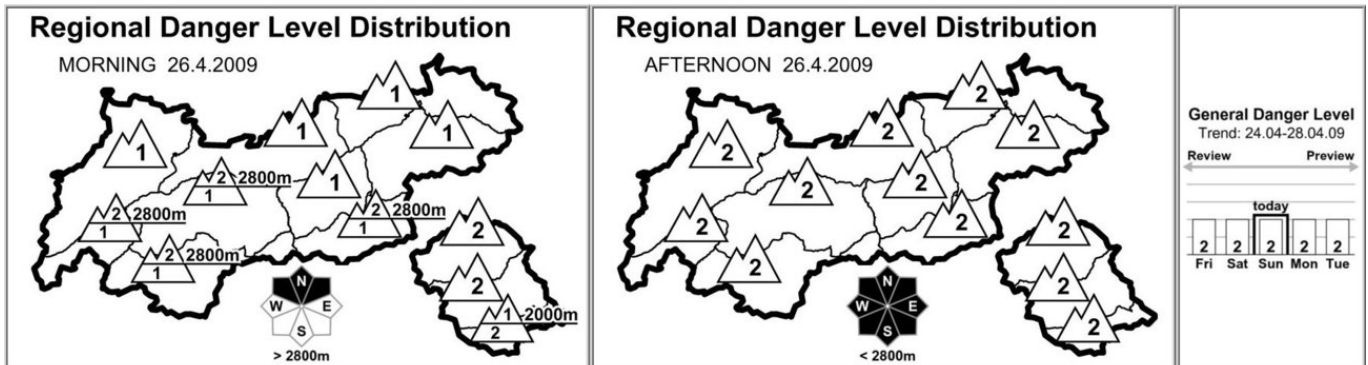


# Avalanche Bulletin

## of the Avalanche Warning Service Tyrol

Sunday, 26.04.2009, at 07:30



## CAUTION TOWARDS SNOWDRIFT ACCUMULATIONS NEAR RIDGE LINES ABOVE 2800 M

### AVALANCHE DANGER

Once again, favourable conditions generally prevail in Tyrol, although the avalanche danger is heavily contingent on the daytime warming cycle and the altitude. In regions along the Main Alpine Ridge and in the northern Ötztal and Stubai Alps, the hazards above 2800 m are moderate, below that altitude they are low. In Tyrol's remaining regions there is low danger in the morning; in East Tyrol below 2000 m, due to the poor nocturnal consolidation, moderate danger. Backcountry skiers and freeriders should exercise caution towards the recently formed snowdrift accumulations above 2800 m on steep, west-northwest to north to east-northeast facing areas near ridge lines, which although easily recognised, can be triggered through large additional loading. Isolated steep transition areas from shallow to deep snow in the same expositions above 2500 m are also trigger sensitive. The snowpack will lose much of its firmness over the course of the day, raising the general danger level to moderate. In very steep terrain, wet slides can easily be unleashed which might become large in size. Winds can impede the moistening process somewhat.

### SNOW LAYERING

The snowpack consolidated well above 2000 m. In East Tyrol this was not the case, due to cloudbanks which appeared early on; a breakable crust is more widespread there. Above approximately 2800 m, snowdrift has accumulated over the last 10 days which along the Main Alpine Ridge often lies atop a layer of surface hoar, a thin ice sheet and in isolated cases contains a layer of graupel, making it prone to triggering. Even more prevalent is the moist or thoroughly wet fundament of the snowpack at low and intermediate altitudes as well as on sun-bathed slopes at higher altitudes.

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

Mountain weather today: stormy winds in the mountains, plus dense cloudbanks which will generally remain above the summits in the Northern Alps. The Main Alpine Ridge and the Southern Alps will form a barrier for dense cloudbanks, the peaks will be veiled in fog. First showers are possible. Continuingly warm. Temperatures at 2000 m: plus 1 to plus 5 degrees; at 3000 m: minus 2 degrees. Strong to stormy southerly winds.

### SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

Above approximately 2000 m, generally good backcountry touring conditions. Caution continues to be urged towards snowdrift accumulations.

Patrick Nairz

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe