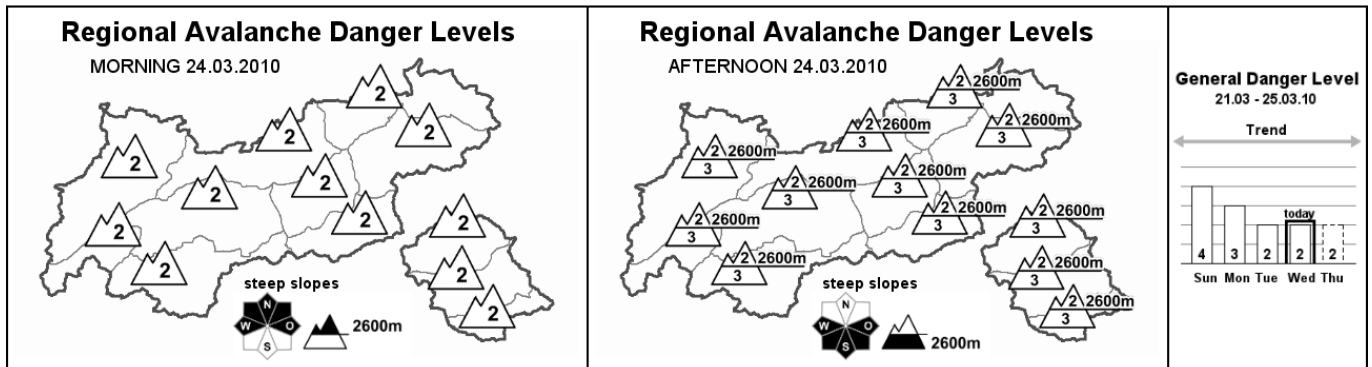


# Avalanche Bulletin

## of the Avalanche Warning Service Tyrol

Wednesday, 24.03.2010, at 07:30



## Favourable conditions during the morning, escalating avalanche danger over the course of the day

### AVALANCHE DANGER

During the early morning hours throughout Tyrol, generally favourable conditions prevail for backcountry tours, with moderate avalanche danger widespread. In the course of the morning, the snowpack will lose its firmness and the peril below about 2600 m will increase to "considerable" far and wide. Avalanche prone locations are to be found primarily on steep, west to south to east facing slopes. Caution is urged towards naturally triggered wet snow avalanches and full depth snowslides, which in isolated cases can even endanger exposed transportation routes and ascents to mountain huts. Backcountry skiing and freeriding tours should be brought to a close early in the day.

### SNOW LAYERING

Due to the outgoing radiation during the night, the snowpack surface consolidated and a melt freeze crust capable of bearing loads formed. Beneath that crust the snowpack is thoroughly wet up to intermediate altitudes, the upper borderlines on sun bathed slopes being correspondingly higher than on shady slopes. Through the daytime warming cycle and solar radiation, this melt freeze crust will continue to soften throughout the morning, and the uppermost layers of the snowpack will rapidly forfeit their firmness. This is significant, since the snowpack fundament consists predominantly of faceted, unbonded snow crystals. This highly instable base can cause avalanches released from starting zones which have not yet discharged to attain large size.

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

Weather: dry air masses reign over the Alps. A southwesterly air current is forming which will gradually bring foehn winds to the northern flank of the Alps. As of Thursday, the effect of clouds lodged against the mountain barrier on the southern flank of the Alps will set in. Mountain weather today: touring conditions are favourable today. Following a clear night and the corresponding consolidation of the snowpack, sunshine and crystal clear air are expected. At midday, the freezing level will be 2700 m. In the foehn exposed regions of North Tyrol, southerly winds will increase in velocity. Temperature at 2000 m: between plus 2 and plus 6 degrees; at 3000 m: between minus 4 and minus 1 degree. Moderate southwesterly winds to begin with; towards afternoon/evening the winds in foehn exposed regions will become stronger.

### SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

Avalanche danger continues to be subject to daytime warming.

Rudi Mair

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe