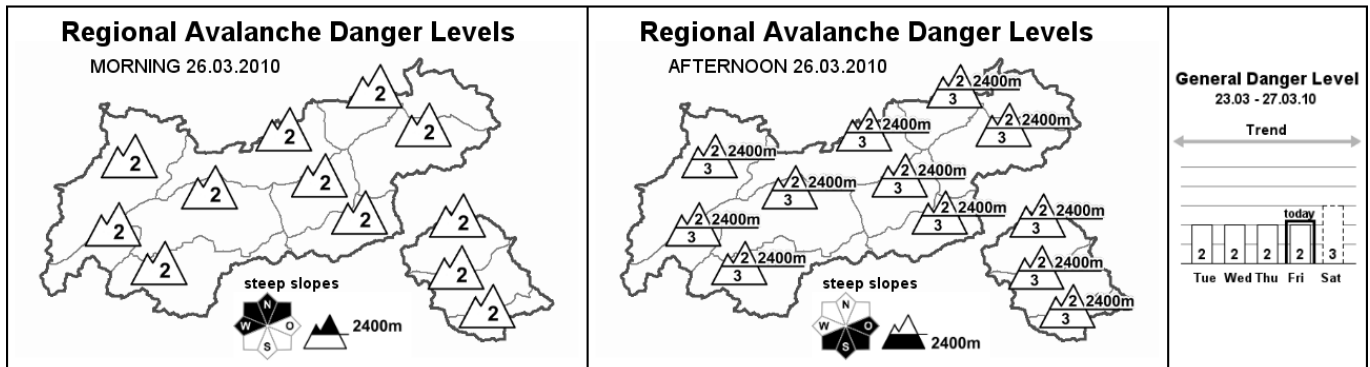


Avalanche Bulletin

of the Avalanche Warning Service Tyrol

Friday, 26.03.2010, at 07:30



Generally moderate danger in early morning, but escalating throughout the day

AVALANCHE DANGER

The avalanche danger in Tyrol's backcountry touring regions is again today subject to a daytime cycle. In the early hours, conditions are generally acceptable, the danger level moderate. As the snowpack firmness diminishes over the course of the morning, the peril will increase, reaching the danger level "considerable" widespread below about 2400 m. Avalanche prone locations are to be found primarily on southwest to south to east facing steep slopes. Since most starting zones have by now at least partially discharged, naturally triggered, large sized avalanches are only expected in isolated cases. Backcountry skiing and freeriding tours should still be brought to a close early in the day.

SNOW LAYERING

Since last night was cloudy, the snowpack's outgoing radiation was reduced, compared to recent nights. Thus, the melt freeze crust on the surface is weaker. During the morning, the mild temperatures brought about by foehn winds, together with solar radiation, will decrease the firmness of the uppermost layers of the snowpack. Caution is urged towards the generally weak, trigger sensitive fundament this winter, consisting predominantly of faceted and thus very loosely packed, unbonded snow crystals.

ALPINE WEATHER FORECAST (ZAMG-WEATHER SERVICE INNSBRUCK)

Weather: a cold front which is embedded in a powerful southwesterly air current will reach us from the west today, shifting the air current to westerly. The air masses delivered to Tyrol will be colder. Mountain weather today: very windy to begin with, generally dry and, in the Northern Alps, variably cloudy. In the course of the afternoon, when the cold front strikes, thunderstorm-type showers can be expected. Temperatures will drop, the snowfall level will sink towards 1200 to 1500 m. By tomorrow morning, about 5 to 10 cm of snowfall is expected on the Main Alpine Ridge, in the Southern Alps about 20 cm of snowfall. Temperature at 2000 m: plus 4 degrees, this afternoon temperatures will drop. Temperature at 3000 m: minus 2 degrees and falling as of this afternoon. Strong to storm velocity southwesterly winds which will shift to westerly as the afternoon proceeds.

SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

Increasing avalanche danger due to snowfall.

Rudi Mair

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe