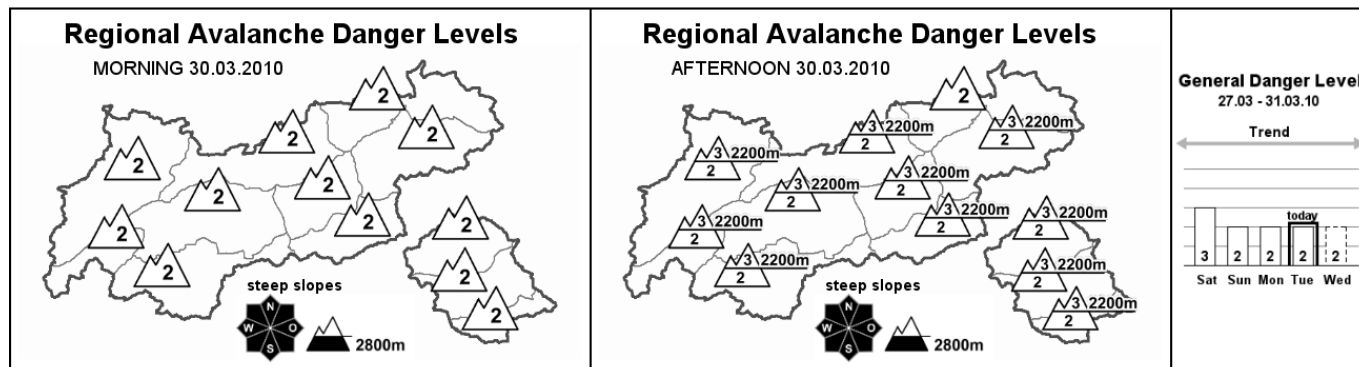


Avalanche Bulletin

of the Avalanche Warning Service Tyrol

Tuesday, 30.03.2010, at 07:30



Avalanche danger escalating again over the course of the day

AVALANCHE DANGER

During the early morning hours, generally moderate danger prevails, despite the fact that the snowpack below about 2200 m is thoroughly wet. The tensions inside the snowpack have diminished sufficiently that large sized avalanches have become improbable, with the possible exception of isolated full depth snowslides. However, due to the limited outgoing radiation during the night, as well as the generally high temperatures, the avalanche danger will rise to "considerable" up to approximately 2800 m today. At higher altitudes, the danger is generally moderate, where special caution is urged towards freshly formed snowdrift accumulations in very steep northwest to north to northeast facing terrain near ridge lines. Also in transition areas from shallow to deep snow in very steep terrain in all expositions, slab avalanches can be triggered especially by large additional loading. Below about 2800 m, such avalanches are possible even through minimum additional loading, due to the increasingly moist/wet snowpack. In areas exposed to winds, the snowpack will lose its firmness more slowly.

SNOW LAYERING

During the night, the snowpack was able to cool off only to a limited extent. For that reason, the melt freeze crust which formed on the surface was generally quite thin below about 2500 m. Beneath this crust, the snowpack is generally moist or wet. Bed surfaces for slab avalanches, still taking the form of loosely packed, unbonded, often thoroughly wet layers of depth hoar, can be found above approximately 2200 m on shady slopes in particular, also in other expositions with increasing altitude. The likelihood of these layers being triggered will rise over the course of the day as they become more and more moist.

ALPINE WEATHER FORECAST (ZAMG-WEATHER SERVICE INNSBRUCK)

In the Northern Alps, windy but dry mountain weather. On the Main Alpine Ridge there will be barrier clouds lodged against the Alps; in the Southern Alps, precipitation is expected. Snowfall from 1500 - 1800 m. Towards evening, showers bringing 5-10 cm of snowfall are also expected in the Northern Alps, with the snowfall level at about 1000 m and falling. In the Southern Alps and on the Main Alpine Ridge, as much as 20 cm of snowfall is expected by tomorrow morning. Temperature at 2000 m: plus 2 degrees; at 3000 m: minus 5 degrees. Strong, in some places storm velocity southerly to southwesterly winds.

SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

The decreasing temperatures which are forecast will improve the avalanche situation.

Patrick Nairz

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe