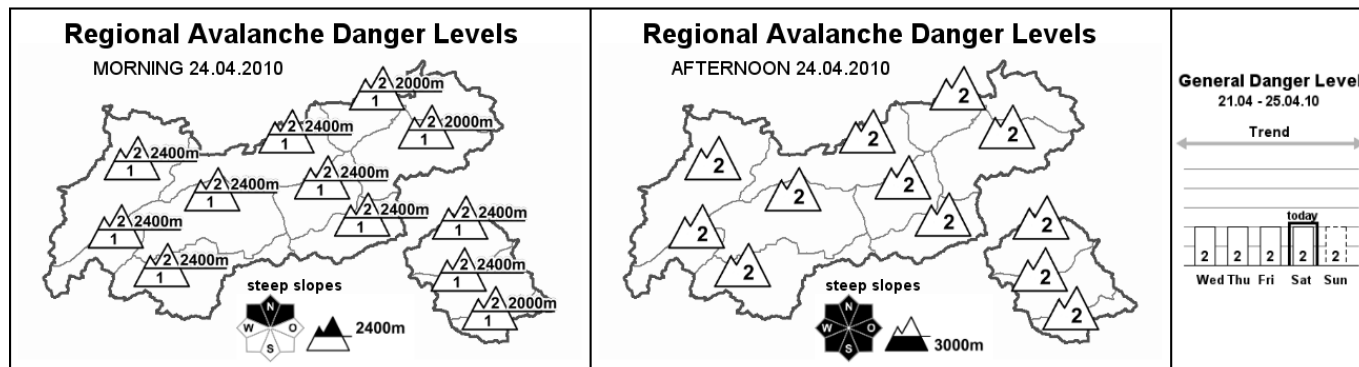


Avalanche Bulletin

of the Avalanche Warning Service Tyrol

Saturday, 24.04.2010, at 07:30



Rapidly escalating avalanche danger through the day

AVALANCHE DANGER

The avalanche danger in Tyrol's backcountry touring regions is intensely subject to a daytime cycle. In the early morning hours, conditions are generally favourable: the danger of dry slab avalanches below about 2400 m is low, above that altitude it is moderate. Avalanche prone locations are to be found primarily on northwest to north to northeast facing slopes above 2400 m. In all regions, however, the danger level for wet snow avalanches will swiftly rise through the morning and can easily reach the level "considerable" (Level 3). Thereafter, frequent naturally triggered avalanches can be expected, increasingly even on shady slopes. Backcountry skiers and freeriders are urgently advised to bring their tours to a close early in the day.

SNOW LAYERING

Following a night with clear skies widespread, the snowpack's outgoing radiation was sufficient to consolidate the crust well in the early morning hours. But over the course of the morning, both solar radiation and daytime warming will cause it to swiftly lose its firmness in all expositions. Caution is urged: the snowpack surface softens up even on shady slopes up to approximately 3000 m over the course of the day, thereby forfeiting its overall firmness. Avalanches can thus fracture down deep in the old snowpack and subsequently attain larger size.

ALPINE WEATHER FORECAST (ZAMG-WEATHER SERVICE INNSBRUCK)

Weather: a low over Italy is moving in a southeasterly direction. The weekend in Tyrol will lie in the area of influence of a high pressure system which will bring warm air masses to the Alps. At the beginning of next week, Tyrol will be brushed by a cold front; towards mid-week, the high will regain its dominance. Mountain weather today: pleasant and mild conditions, with strong sunshine until after midday. During the afternoon, still partially sunny, but convective cloud will build up massively. Short rain showers will be the exception, rather than the rule, with snowfall level at 2600 m; in many regions it will remain dry all day long. Temperature at 2000 m: plus 3 to plus 8 degrees and rising; at 3000 m: minus 3 to plus 1 degree. Generally light winds amidst local thermics.

SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

Escalating avalanche danger over the course of the day.

Rudi Mair

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe