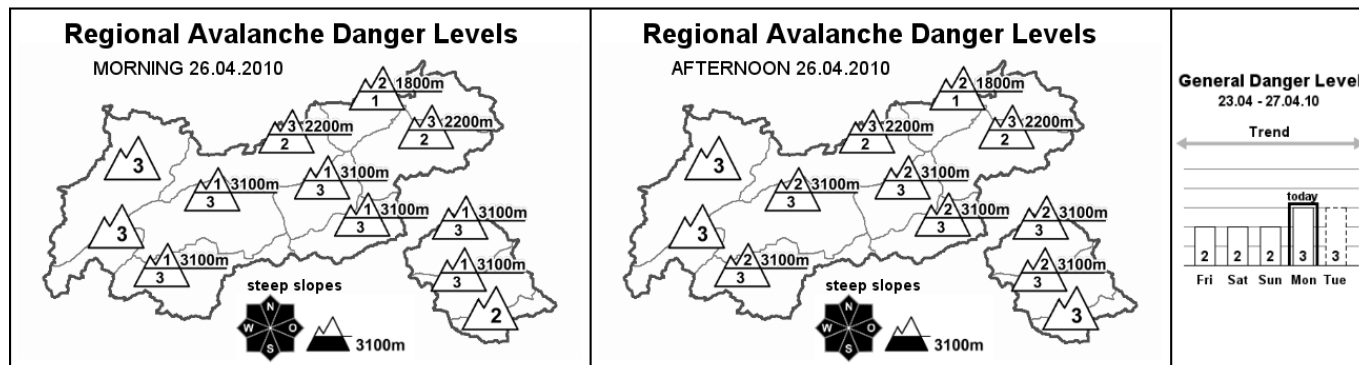


Avalanche Bulletin

of the Avalanche Warning Service Tyrol

Monday, 26.04.2010, at 07:30



Once again, significantly escalating avalanche danger as day unfolds

AVALANCHE DANGER

The avalanche danger varies according to a daytime cycle. During the early morning hours in eastern regions, i.e. where it is not yet raining, the danger level is generally moderate. With daytime warming and the forecast rainfall, the peril will quickly rise: even during the morning it will reach danger level 3, "considerable" in all regions below 3100 m. Slab avalanches can then be triggered on very steep slopes in all expositions above approximately 2200 m even by minimum additional loading. Particularly on southwest to north to southeast facing slopes, such avalanches can attain larger size. During the afternoon, amidst diffuse radiation, naturally triggered avalanches above 2200 m can be expected, although probably fewer today for the simple reason that so many avalanches have already been released over the weekend. Backcountry skiers and freeriders are advised to launch their mountain tours as early as possible and bring them to a close very early in the day.

SNOW LAYERING

The snowpack was only able to superficially consolidate during the night. For the most part, a breakable crust covers the surface, beneath which is loose, wet snow. Only in high alpine regions is there widespread on steep, shady slopes a crust capable of bearing loads atop a dry snowpack. The snowpack became quite moist, at very least on the upper surface, over the weekend up as far as high alpine regions, i.e. even on shady slopes above 3000 m. At lower altitudes on sunny slopes, it is thoroughly wet. The layer of depth hoar embedded deep down in the snowpack from mid-winter can still serve widespread as a bed surface for large sized slab avalanches.

ALPINE WEATHER FORECAST (ZAMG-WEATHER SERVICE INNSBRUCK)

East of the Brenner Pass as far as the Grossglockner it will be intermittently sunny this morning, but convective cloud will soon form. Rainfall and snow flurries will move in from the west, as early as the morning hours in the valleys of the Lech. Snowfall level will be 2200 m. About 5 cm of snowfall is anticipated, locally as much as 10 cm in high alpine regions. Tonight will be overcast. Temperature at 2000 m: plus 4 degrees; at 3000 m: minus 2 degrees. Moderate westerly winds, shifting to northwesterly this evening.

SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

Only in high alpine regions during the morning can favourable conditions be expected.

Patrick Nairz

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe