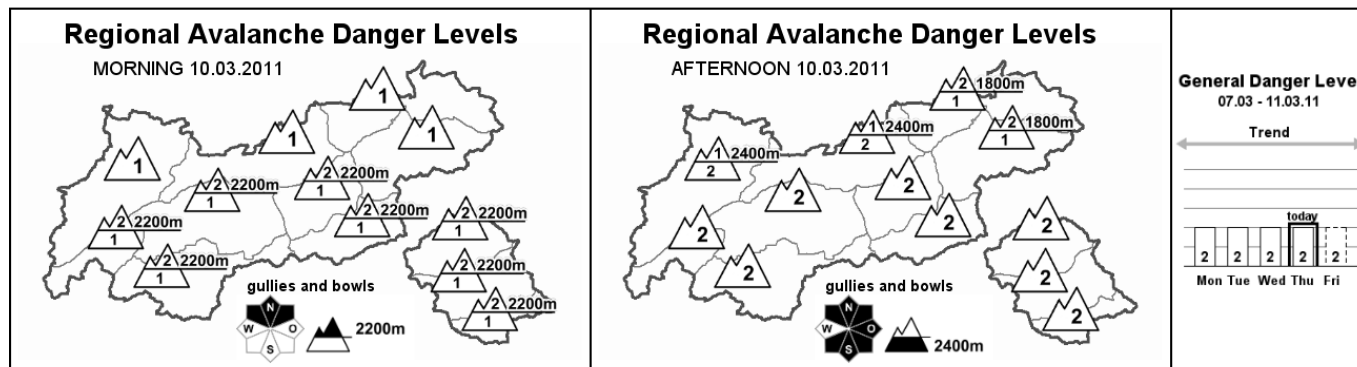


Avalanche Bulletin

of the Avalanche Warning Service Tyrol

Thursday, 10.03.2011, at 07:30



Favourable backcountry touring conditions, the daytime danger will escalate slightly

AVALANCHE DANGER

The avalanche danger level remains favourable, despite the cloudy skies during the night, and will rise somewhat over the course of the day. In northern regions, low danger generally prevails; further to the south the danger above 2200 m is moderate, below that altitude it is low. Avalanche prone locations are to be found most frequently in shady, steep terrain between 2200 and 2500 m, above that altitude the danger zones become less frequent. The hazards are greatest in seldom frequented terrain. Over the course of the day, the snowpack will be thoroughly moistened through the diffuse solar radiation, and thereafter forfeit its firmness. The peril will then increase to moderate above about 2400 m. Backcountry tourers can then trigger relatively small sized wet slides on extremely steep, east to south to southwest facing slopes. In regions subject to heavy wind influence, the moistening process will be impeded.

SNOW LAYERING

The snow depths continue to be well below average. At low and intermediate altitudes, sun-exposed slopes in particular are already bare of snow. Weak layers inside the snowpack are isolated, found on shady slopes above approximately 2200 m: loose, faceted layers are evident. The older snowdrift masses deposited atop of them are also relinquishing their tension; only in isolated cases is the tension inside the snowpack high enough for avalanches to be triggered. The snowpack surface is highly irregular: in steep, sun-drenched terrain there are brittle melt freeze crusts, due to the cloudy night, yet sometimes capable of bearing loads. In shady, wind protected zones there is still powder, with wind crusts evident at higher altitudes.

ALPINE WEATHER FORECAST (ZAMG-WEATHER SERVICE INNSBRUCK)

Weather in general: a northwesterly disturbance will brush Tyrol today, bringing cloudbanks; tomorrow an intermediate high will again dominate. On the weekend, southerly air currents will bring foehn-induced pleasant skies, with increasing moistness expected on the southern flank of the Alps. Temperatures remain spring-like. Mountain weather today: a cloudy, windy day in the Northern Alps, from the Karwendel to the Kitzbühel Alps very little sunshine is anticipated. The further south you venture, the more sunshine you encounter, and the wind will also slacken off in the south. Freezing level about 1900 m. Temperature at 2000 m: minus 1 degree; at 3000 m: minus 8 degrees. Strong westerly wind in the Northern Alps, elsewhere lighter winds, though intermittently brisk westerly to northwesterly winds are possible.

SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

Following a night of clear skies, favourable conditions, but with rise in daytime danger

Patrick Nairz

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe