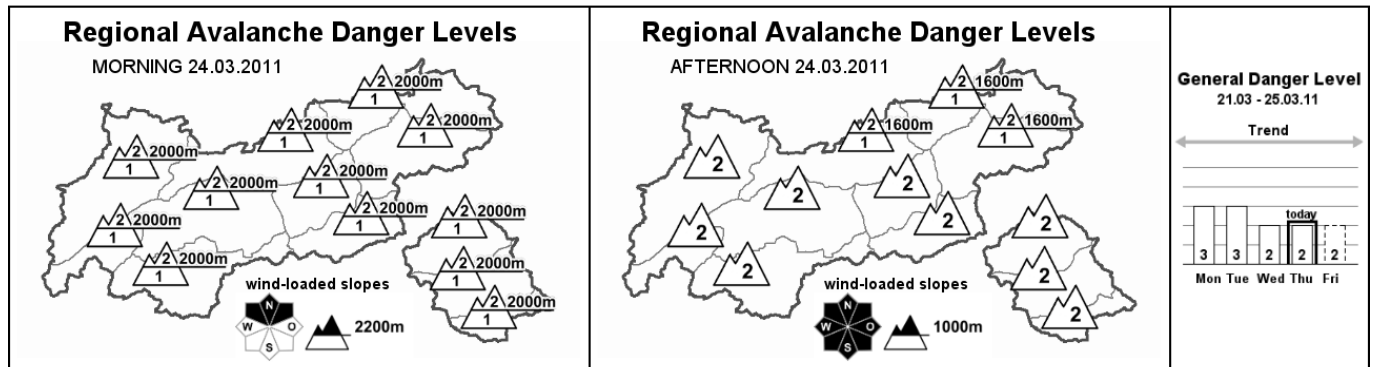


Avalanche Bulletin

of the Avalanche Warning Service Tyrol

Thursday, 24.03.2011, at 07:30



Classic springtime conditions, increasing danger during the day

AVALANCHE DANGER

This morning, quite favourable conditions prevail. The danger above 2000 m is moderate, below that altitude it is low. Caution urged on very steep, shady, unfrequented slopes, especially between 2200 and 2800 m, where primarily through large additional loading dry slab avalanches of medium size can be triggered. The snowpack will become moist or wet during the day at low and intermediate altitudes in all expositions, at high altitudes on sunny slopes, and thus lose its firmness. The danger will then escalate in all regions to moderate, perhaps even rise as high as "considerable" late this afternoon, depending on solar radiation; in which case wet, loose snow avalanches on east and west facing slopes, especially between 2200 and 2800 m, and even slab avalanches can be triggered. In isolated cases in extremely steep terrain, naturally triggered, usually small sized wet avalanches, on steep grassy slopes full depth snowslides, can be released. At low altitudes, the avalanche danger remains low, due to reduced snow masses.

SNOW LAYERING

Appropriate to spring, the snowpack is quite stable during morning hours, due to the alternating wetness during the day and cooling off during the night. Only on west to north to east facing slopes between about 2200 and 2800 m is there a pronounced layer of depth hoar which could serve as a bed surface to trigger snowdrift accumulations which formed last week. The bonding on north facing slopes is weaker than on west and east facing slopes. Through the daytime warming cycle, the snowpack will lose much of its firmness, especially on sunny slopes.

ALPINE WEATHER FORECAST (ZAMG-WEATHER SERVICE INNSBRUCK)

Weather in general: a high pressure system, extending from the British Isles to the Black Sea, will dominate Tyrol's weather today and tomorrow. Mountain weather today: superb conditions in the mountains. Besides outstanding visibility, the sunshine will be unimpeded. Convective cloud will not form this afternoon, the freezing level is at 2800 m altitude. Temperature at 2000 m: zero to plus 6 degrees; at 3000 m: minus 2 degrees. The light easterly winds will shift to southwesterly this afternoon.

SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

Springtime conditions will continue, bringing favourable conditions in the morning, accompanied by escalating danger during the day.

Patrick Nairz

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe