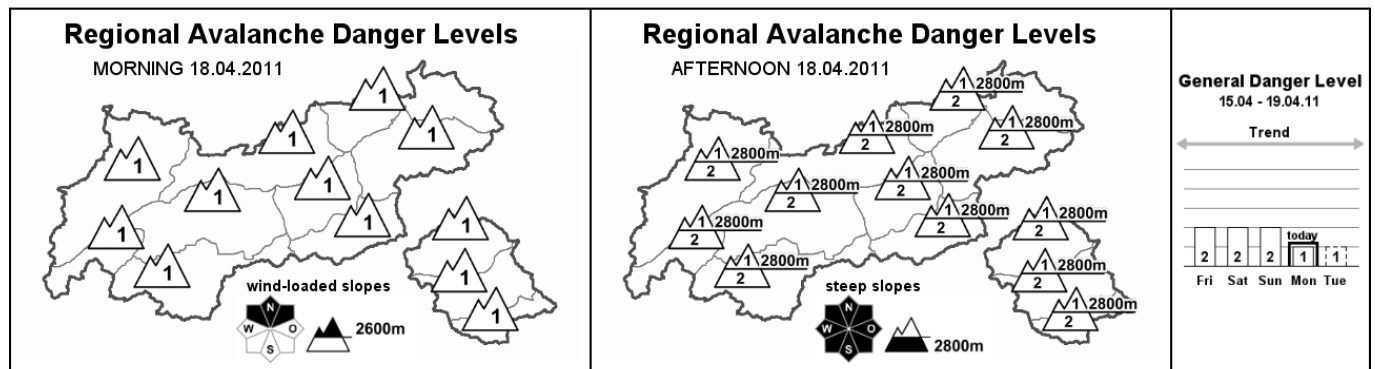


Avalanche Bulletin

of the Avalanche Warning Service Tyrol

Monday, 18.04.2011, at 07:30



Favourable touring conditions amidst a slight daytime rise in danger

AVALANCHE DANGER

The avalanche danger level is generally low this morning, then over the course of the day will rise to moderate up to 2800 m. As of then, small moist snow avalanches can be triggered on sunny, very steep slopes. In addition, isolated avalanche prone locations for dry, slab avalanches are still to be found on very steep northwest to north to northeast facing slopes, particularly between about 2600 and 2800 m. Ordinarily, avalanches are triggered only by large additional loading. In high alpine regions and in areas adjacent to ridge lines in very steep terrain, caution is urged towards small sized, easily recognized snowdrift masses.

SNOW LAYERING

Following a night of clear skies, the snowpack on sunny slopes was able to consolidate sufficiently, there is now a melt freeze crust capable of bearing loads widespread. On shady, very steep slopes, there is often still powder snow on top of a quite stable old snowpack, at least above 2000 m. A potential bed surface for slab avalanches is to be found in largely unfrequented, shady, very steep terrain, especially concentrated between 2600 and 2800 m over small surface areas, in the form of a layer of depth hoar. Since the snowpack lying atop this layer has at least one melt freeze crust embedded inside it, the depth hoar is not as easy to disturb.

ALPINE WEATHER FORECAST (ZAMG-WEATHER SERVICE INNSBRUCK)

General weather: a stationary high pressure system over western and central Europe is flanked by a low off the coast of Portugal and another low over Greece and Turkey. Thus, the systems tend to block each other and weather disturbances are funneled around the Alps in a wide reaching arc. Temperatures are rising incrementally each day. Mountain weather today: impeccable mountain weather, only light winds, excellent visibility from the summits. This afternoon, only local visibility impediments from convective cloud build-up. The freezing level this afternoon will be about 2500 m. Temperature at 2000 m: plus 3 degrees; at 3000 m: minus 4 degrees. At all altitudes, the winds will be light.

SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

Ongoing favourable conditions for tours in outlying terrain

Patrick Nairz

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe