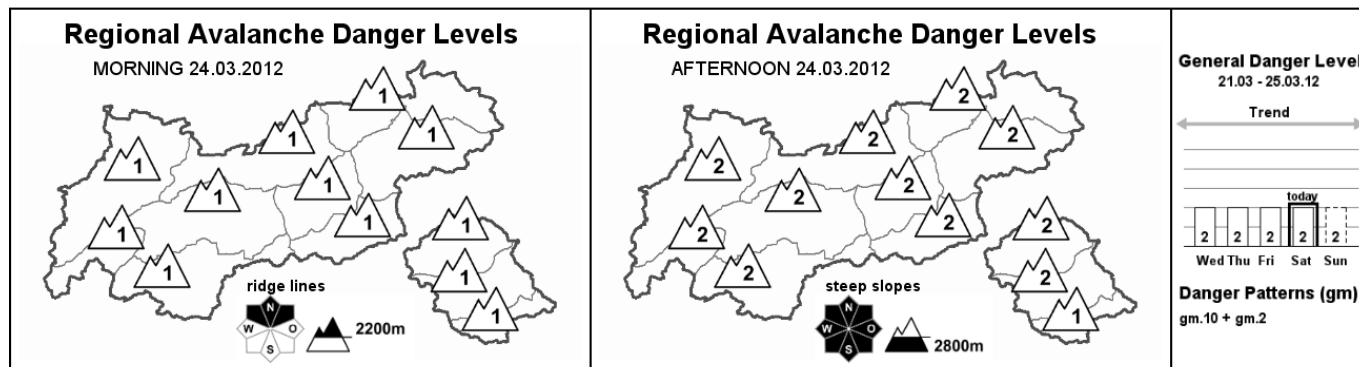


Avalanche Bulletin

of the Avalanche Warning Service Tyrol

Saturday, 24.03.2012, at 07:30



Favourable touring conditions, daytime rise in avalanche danger

AVALANCHE DANGER

Springlike conditions prevail in Tyrol's backcountry touring regions, including a typical rise in avalanche danger linked to the daytime warming cycle. During the morning hours, the danger level is generally low. Isolated avalanche prone locations for dry, slab avalanches can still be found in shady ridgeline areas above approximately 2200 m as well as in transition areas from shallow to deep snow. As of late morning, the snowpack will have lost some of its firmness due to the solar radiation and rising temperatures; consequently, the avalanche danger level will increase to moderate. As of that point in the day, caution is urged towards naturally triggered moist snowslides and wet snow avalanches, as well as full depth snowslides, particularly on sun-drenched slopes. Thus, skiing and freeriding tours in outlying terrain should be brought to an end in plenty of time.

SNOW LAYERING

On sun-exposed slopes, a crust which is capable of bearing loads formed during the night due to outgoing radiation. On shady slopes, particularly in wind protected zones, loosely packed powder snow can still be found. The old snowpack has settled and consolidated well, it is solid and stable. There are no longer area-wide weak layers evident inside it.

ALPINE WEATHER FORECAST (ZAMG-WEATHER SERVICE INNSBRUCK)

Weather in general: The high pressure system over the Alps will be undermined by a small cold front at high altitudes over the weekend. The air masses will temporarily become less stable, convective cloud build-up and showers will be the result. On Monday, the high will regain its strength and springlike conditions will then continue throughout most of next week. Mountain weather today: sunshine will still prevail this morning, although eastern regions will be partly cloudy. As of about midday, cumulus clouds will move in. Isolated showers are possible, particularly in the northern limestone Alps and east of the Dolomites, with the snowfall level dropping from 1900 to about 1500 m. Temperature at 2000 m: between zero and plus 4 degrees; at 3000 m: minus 6 degrees. Generally light winds.

SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

Daytime cycle of avalanche danger

Rudi Mair

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe