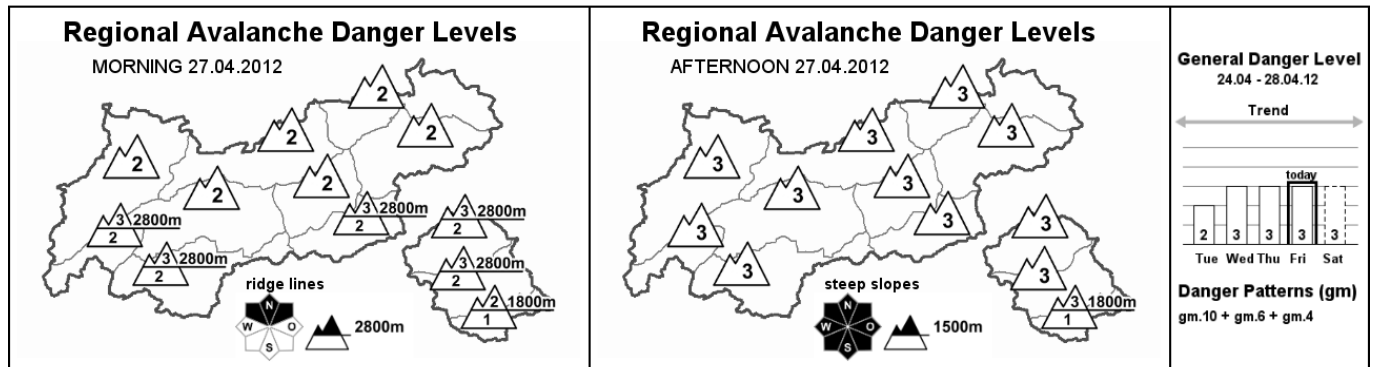


Avalanche Bulletin

of the Avalanche Warning Service Tyrol

Friday, 27.04.2012, at 07:30



Significantly escalating daytime avalanche danger!

AVALANCHE DANGER

Well into the early morning hours, considerable avalanche danger prevails above approximately 2800 m along the Main Alpine Ridge. In the remaining regions the danger is moderate, but the avalanche danger then rapidly increases due to swiftly rising temperatures and solar radiation, reaching the danger level "considerable" at all altitudes. Caution is urged towards the recently formed snowdrift accumulations, especially above approximately 2800 m in very steep, west-northwest to north to east-northeast facing ridgeline areas, where slab avalanches can be triggered even by minimum additional loading. Slab avalanches are also possible at altitudes between about 2300 and 2600 m, during the morning through large, later on even through minimum additional loading, especially in shady, very steep terrain where the snow is shallow. As the snowpack becomes thoroughly wet over the course of the day, frequent wet snowslides and wet, loosely packed snow avalanches are expected at all altitudes on sunny, very steep slopes. On grassy slopes where there are glide cracks evident in the snowpack, isolated full depth snowslides are also expected. Under all circumstances, backcountry tours should be terminated early in the day

SNOW LAYERING

The cold reserves inside the snowpack are fast disappearing. The nocturnal outgoing radiation currently leads to only a very brief stabilization of the snowpack during the morning. At low and intermediate altitudes and on steep, sunny slopes, the moist old snowpack quickly becomes wet and destabilized. A thin, faceted layer atop a melt-freeze crust near the surface, particularly between 2300 and 2600 m, is a potential candidate to become a bed surface for slab avalanches. Another is a layer of depth hoar near the ground on very steep, shady, shallow-snow slopes, particularly along the Main Alpine Ridge.

ALPINE WEATHER FORECAST (ZAMG-WEATHER SERVICE INNSBRUCK)

Weather in general: A low pressure system hangs over western Europe. At its forefront, a southwesterly airstream is pushing very warm air masses towards the Alps. This combination will persist until beyond the weekend. As winds shift to southerly, temperatures are expected to decrease somewhat as of Sunday, giving clouds a chance to move in. Mountain weather today: The southerly wind will slacken off slightly, lots of sunshine and inordinately high temperatures for April. The zero degree level will be above 3500 m. Temperature at 2000 m: 6 to 13 degrees; at 3000 m: 2 to 6 degrees. Moderate southwesterly winds, in foehn lanes winds will be strong.

SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

Markedly increased avalanche danger during the course of the day will continue

Patrick Nairz

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe