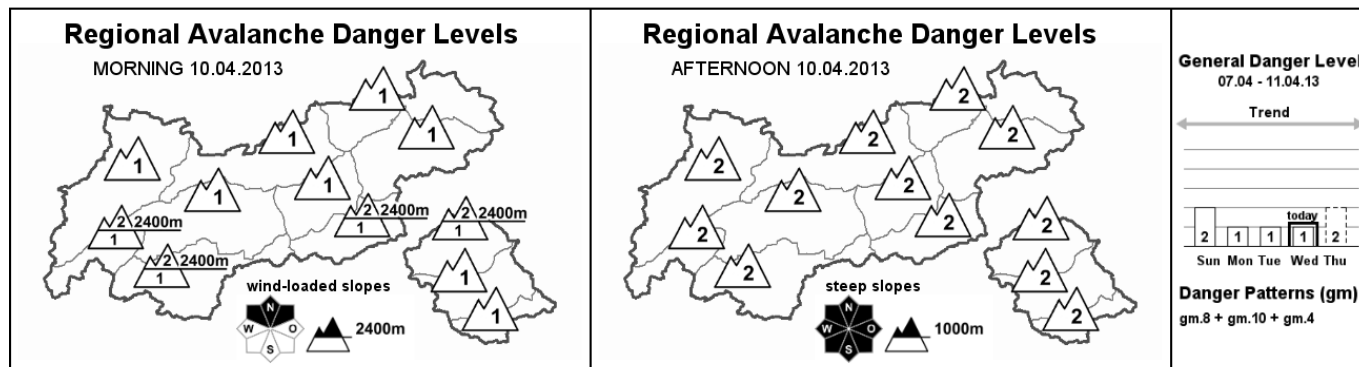


Avalanche Bulletin

of the Avalanche Warning Service Tyrol

Wednesday, 10.04.2013, at 07:30



Fresh snowdrift on Main Alpine Ridge, loose avalanches due to daytime warming

AVALANCHE DANGER

Favourable conditions continue. This morning the danger level in the regions along the Main Alpine Ridge is moderate above 2400m, below 2400m it is low. In the rest of Tyrol the danger level is generally low this morning. During the day with increasing diffuse radiation the snowpack surface will soften in sunny and wind protected terrain below 2400m, heightening the danger level to moderate. Wherever it snowed yesterday, we expect numerous, small, loose avalanches today in steep terrain. Elsewhere, caution is urged towards the freshly drifted masses along the Main Alpine Ridge, particularly on steep, shady, ridgeline slopes above 2400m. Even minimum additional loading could release an avalanche there, but the spots are easy to recognize.

SNOW LAYERING

Over the last two days there has been 10-20 cm of snowfall along the Main Alpine Ridge. Strong winds have led to new snowdrift accumulating. Potential bed surfaces are wherever there is surface hoar, frequently found in shady, ridgeline terrain. The bonding between snowdrift and surface hoar becomes poor as of about 2400m. Elsewhere there are few danger spots in the snowpack, at most on sunny, very steep slopes between 2600 and 2900m, where a thin layer of faceted crystals has formed, but is trigger sensitive only in exceptional cases. As the snowpack becomes moister, it will lose its firmness. Wind cools it, thus slowing down the softening process.

ALPINE WEATHER FORECAST (ZAMG-WEATHER SERVICE INNSBRUCK)

Weather: A fast moving, quite mild westerly current is moving over the Alps, tomorrow it will shift to southwesterly, bringing foehn conditions to the northern flank of the Alps. On Friday, a cold front will follow in its wake, sinking temperatures temporarily. Mountain weather today: quickly changing visibility, strong winds in ridgeline areas over midday. In the Northern Alps a few local snow showers this morning (or graupel), in the mountain ranges surrounding the Inn Valley and on the Main Alpine Ridge it will be sunny, but windy in places. Temperature at 2000m: minus 2 degrees; at 3000m: minus 10 degrees. Strong to storm strength westerly winds.

SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

Temperatures will rise, the snowpack thus lose much of its firmness during the day at low and intermediate altitudes.

Patrick Nairz

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe