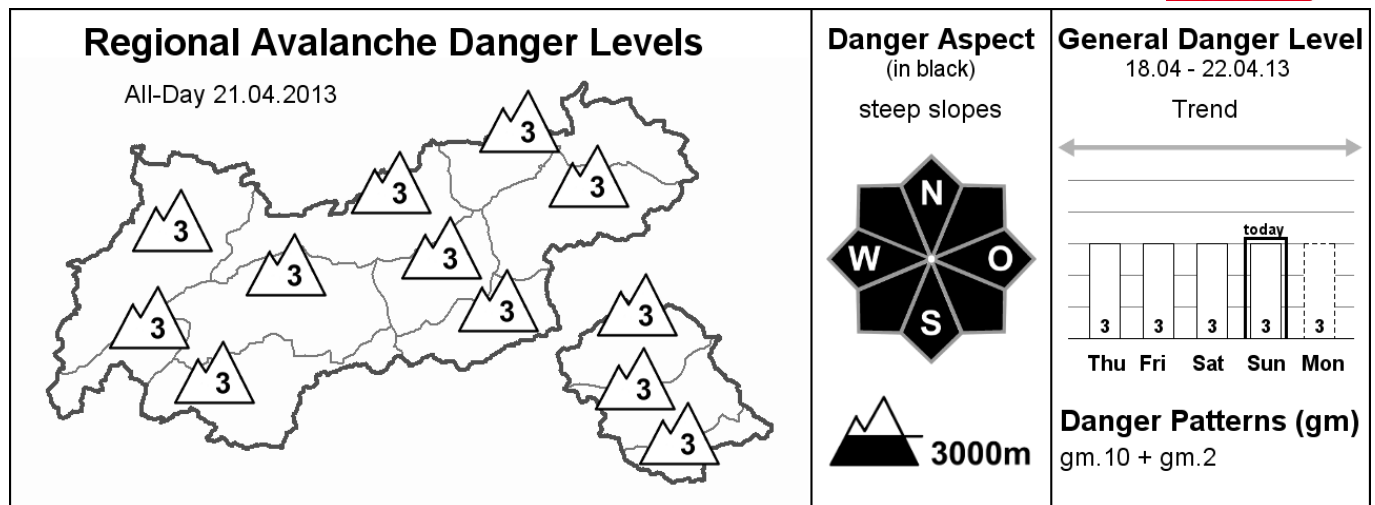


Avalanche Bulletin

of the Avalanche Warning Service Tyrol

Sunday, 21.04.2013, at 07:30



Sunshine to cause many loose avalanches where snowfall was heavy

AVALANCHE DANGER

Considerable avalanche danger prevails widespread, including three different threats. First, where there was snowfall in recent days loose avalanches are expected in extremely steep terrain which can also sweep along the old snowpack (which is thoroughly wet) and reach medium size. Second, on steep grassy slopes, full depth snowslides continue to release. Lastly, in high alpine regions on shady, very steep slopes and ridgeline areas fresh snowdrift accumulations are threatening: they can be triggered by large additional loading as long as the diffuse solar radiation is weak. The general rule for today is: at higher altitudes there is less danger, at lower altitudes where the snowpack is wetter the danger is greater.

SNOW LAYERING

The fresh fallen snow from the last two days has settled, but is already becoming wet from the diffuse solar radiation and daytime warming, thus losing its firmness. The snow cover on sunny slopes below about 3200 m, on shady slopes below about 2600 m, is moist or even wet down to the ground. In regions where there was not so much snowfall a thin melt-freeze crust formed overnight at higher altitudes.

ALPINE WEATHER FORECAST (ZAMG-WEATHER SERVICE INNSBRUCK)

Weather: A low over Genoa is bringing mild but very moist air masses heavy-with-cloud from the south to Tirol. On Monday a weak cold front will pass through from the north. On Tuesday a high pressure zone will regain influence. Mountain weather today: fine, mild weather conditions in many places, zero degree level at 2500 m. From the Tauern to the Kitzbühel Alps and to the Wetterstein range, intermittent sunshine. In the western sector of the Main Alpine Ridge, heavy cloud is moving in from the south, bringing a few snowflakes. This afternoon in the Dolomites, tendency towards increased showers. This evening and during the night tonight, snow showers in the Northern Alps. Temperature at 2000 m: plus 4 degrees; at 3000 m: minus 3 degrees. Brisk to strong southeasterly winds, slackening off this afternoon.

SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

Avalanche danger will recede only slowly, since the night was cloudy

Patrick Nairz

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe