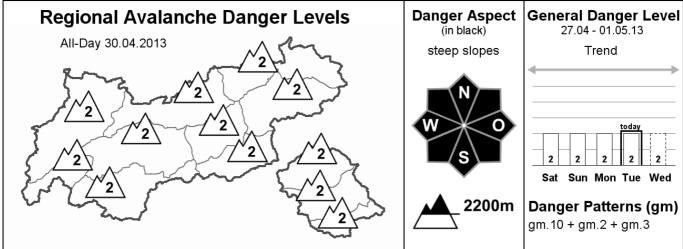
Avalanche Bulletin

of the Avalanche Warning Service Tyrol Tuesday, 30.04.2013, at 07:30





Moderate avalanche danger, poor snow quality

AVALANCHE DANGER

The avalanche peril has not changed, the danger level is moderate, the major hazard being of loose, wet avalanches which can be triggered by an impulse from skiers or freeriders above approximately 2200m in extremely steep terrain. Due to high temperatures and predicted rainfall, the firmness of cornices will be lost still further, they are breaking far more frequently and triggering wet avalanches in their wake. Isolated full depth snowslides on steep, grassy slopes can be expected. Above 2800m conditions are better; the strong winds are cooling the snowpack surface, improving the situation somewhat.

SNOW LAYERING

Warmth, little outgoing radiation at night, isolated rainfall up to 3000m are the factors which are quickly deteriorating the snowpack. Below about 3000m it is moist widespread, with descending altitude increasingly wet. Weak layers are not prevalent inside the snowpack, at most near the ground where a mixture of melt-freeze layers and wet depth hoar inside shallow snow above about 2400m, particularly on W to N to E facing slopes. Loose avalanches can be released more easily above approximately 2200m, the old snowpack below about 2200 m is well settled.

ALPINE WEATHER FORECAST (ZAMG-WEATHER SERVICE INNSBRUCK)

Weather: A low over the Iberian peninsula is still sending mild air masses from the south to the Alps, sometimes accompanied by cloud. That low is coming closer, but it is still uncertain what its effect will be on our weather in the next few days. Mountain weather today: Variably cloudy on the northern flank of the Alps, some fog, some sunshine particularly as evening approaches. Isolated showers, particularly in the western ranges, are possible. On the Main Alpine Ridge and southwards therefrom, the cloud is lodged against the northern mountain flanks, it is gloomy, foggy, occasional rain showers, a bit of snowfall above 2700m. Temperature at 2000m: 6-10 degrees; at 3000m: zero to 3 degrees. Strong to storm-strength foehn winds.

SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

No significant change in the general situation, wet snow avalanches still are the greatest hazard, especially above 2200m.

Patrick Nairz

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe

