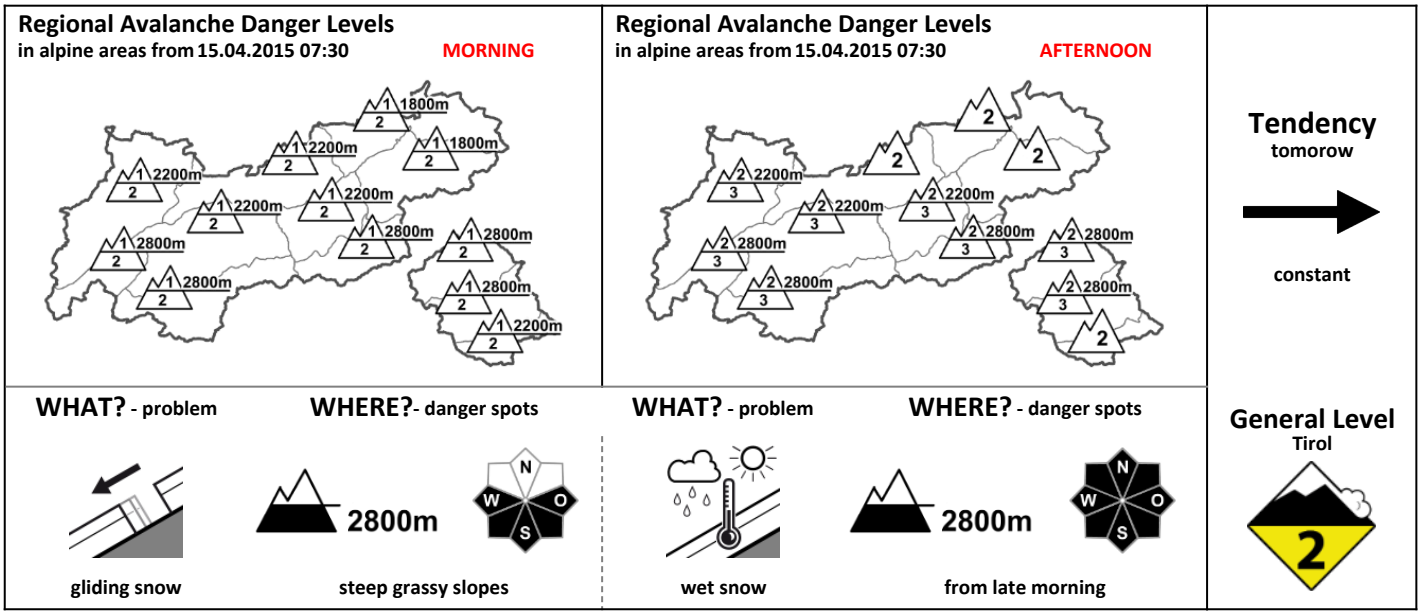
Avalanche Bulletin
of the Avalanche Warning Service Tyrol
Wednesday, 15.04.2015, at 07:30 Uhr



DANGER PATTERNS (DP): dp.10 - springtime szenario dp.2 - gliding snow

After favourable morning conditions, avalanche danger rises swiftly

AVALANCHE DANGER

Avalanche danger in Tirol's backcountry touring regions is subject to a daytime cycle: in the early morning danger is low; as the morning unfolds it increases rapidly to considerable. The hazards stem for the most part from the increasing wetness of the snowpack. Particularly on sunny slopes, the loss of snowpack firmness is swift, naturally triggered superficial loose-snow and wet-snow avalanches can be expected even during the morning which can fracture all the way down to the ground and thereby attain larger size. On steep, grass-covered slopes, in addition, gliding avalanches are possible. Skiing and freeriding tours in outlying terrain should be terminated early in the day.

SNOW LAYERING

Last night skies were clear by and large, there was sufficient outgoing radiation and the snowpack was able to cool. On the snowpack surface on steep, sunny-side slopes a melt-freeze crust formed. As of late morning the rising temperatures combined with strong solar radiation will soften, melt and deteriorate this crust, subsequently it will forfeit its firmness. The dry air has a beneficial effect on the snow cover, slows down the process of deterioration. The enduringly mild weather is making the snowpack increasingly wet, particularly on south facing slopes below 3200m; on east and west facing slopes below about 2800 m; and on north facing slopes below about 2400m.

ALPINE WEATHER FORECAST (ZAMG-WEATHER SERVICE INNSBRUCK)

Weather: a high over central Europe is the major weather determinant, bringing dry air masses to Tirol. At the same time, a low over Portugal is pushing warm air masses filled with sand from the Sahara towards the Alps. Mountain weather today: brilliant sunshine, only a bit of cloud above summit level, outstanding conditions for activities of all kinds. Light winds (brisk foehn winds in the Tux Alps this afternoon). Sahara sand will make the air somewhat hazy. Temperature at 2000m, +10 degrees; at 3000m, +1 degree. Light to moderate westerly to northwesterly winds; southwesterly in the Brenner valley.

SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

Springtime conditions, avalanche danger contingent on a daytime cycle.

Rudi Mair **Translated by Jeffrey McCabe**