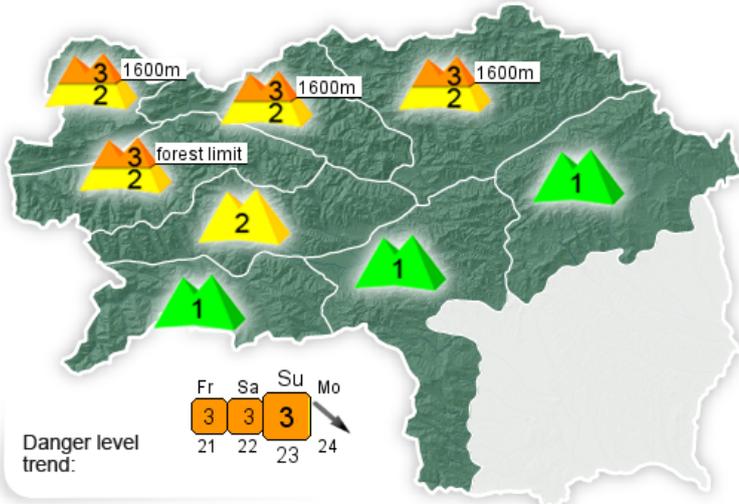


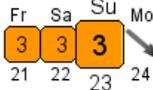


Avalanche Forecast

made by LWD Styria for Monday, 24.04.2017
(published: , 23.04.2017 at 4:36 pm)



Danger level trend:



R1 Northern barrier region:
 a) Northern Alps, West
 b) Central Sector of Northern Alps
 c) Northern Alps, East
 d) Niedere Tauern, North

R2 Transitional region and Southern massifs:
 e) Niedere Tauern, South
 f) Styrian Border Range, East
 g) Styrian Border Range, West
 h) Gurk- and Seetal Alps



	all day	high altitude
WHAT? are the major problems	wet snow	drifting snow
WHERE? are the problems	most affected	most affected
HOW? are avalanches triggered	Naturally triggered avalanches can be expected	even by minimum additional loading
WHY? did these problems arise	Bed surface in old snow - partly wet/thoroughly wet	Bed surface inside layer of new fallen snow

Some trigger-sensitive snowdrifts at high altitudes, snowpack swiftly losing firmness during daytime, snowpack becoming thoroughly wet

Avalanche Danger

In the Northern Alps and the northern sector of the Niedere Tauern, considerable avalanche danger prevails above 1600 m; in the other regions of Styria, danger is moderate to low. At high altitudes, isolated, older snowdrift accumulations and especially the drifts which amassed on Saturday and Sunday require special caution; in terrain adjacent to ridgelines they can often be triggered by one sole skier or freerider. As solar radiation intensifies and daytime warming rapidly increases, wet-snow and gliding avalanches will come into the foreground of danger, particularly at lower altitudes. Naturally triggered moist-snow and loosely-packed avalanches are also possible in steep terrain. The numerous glide cracks in the snowpack surface are indicators of gliding avalanche danger which call for caution.

Snow Layering

On Saturday night there was up to 30 cm of fresh fallen snow registered in the Northern Alps; in the Niedere Tauern up to 10 cm. The snowfall level was often the valley floor. At lower altitudes the new fallen snow was able to settle during the daytime. At high altitudes, fresh snowdrifts accumulated anew which were deposited atop older drifts and are thus prone to triggering. The mild and sunny weather on Monday will help the fresh snow to settle further. The process of the snowpack becoming moist and ultimately, thoroughly wet, is continuing. This, in turn, eliminates all firmness inside the snow cover. The warm ground serves as the perfect lubricating layer for gliding avalanches, indicated by the appearance of glide cracks in the snowpack surface. Low altitude terrain is rapidly becoming bare of snow.

Alpine Weather Forecast

On Sunday night, partly cloudy skies. On Monday, following a frosty start, a southwesterly air current will bring sunshine and warmer air masses, including an upward leap in temperature at all altitudes. At 1500m: +6 degrees; at 2000m: +2 degrees. Light-to-moderate SW winds will prevail.

Short Term Development

On Tuesday, pleasant weather conditions are expected, with potential for cloud but milder temperatures. The snowpack will continue to settle and also become wetter. This will catapult the wet-snow problem into the limelight.

The next avalanche bulletin will be published tomorrow at about 6:00 pm.

Gernot Zenkl

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