

## National avalanche bulletin no. 61

from Saturday, 27 January 2007, 18:30 hours

*Through snowdrift in certain regions considerable avalanche danger*

### Current conditions

On Saturday it was sunny in Valais and Tessine, otherwise rather overcast. In the central and eastern regions of the northern flanks of the Alps and in northern Grisons, it snowed. In the last two days, 15 to 25 cm of loosely packed new snow fell. In the bordering areas, about 10 to 20 cm of snow fell. On Saturday in the east and south, strong to stormy northerly winds blew. In the west and in the northern Pre-Alps, moderate northerly winds blew. Midday temperatures at 2000 m were minus 9 degrees in the north and minus 4 to minus 7 degrees in the south.

With the northerly winds, the loosely packed snow drifted in the east and south in particular. The fresh snowdrift accumulations are trigger-sensitive. The crust beneath the new snow and snowdrift is slowly weakening. Beneath the crust, an increasingly large poorly bonded layer is forming.

### Short-range trend

Towards Sunday the snowfall in the northeast will decrease. During the day it is predominantly sunny. Midday temperatures at 2000 m will rise to about minus 2 degrees in the south, minus 4 degrees in the west, and minus 7 degrees in the northeast. Winds will shift to northwest and be moderate to strong. The snowdrift accumulations will decrease slowly. Newer accumulations of snowdrift remain trigger-sensitive, however.

### Avalanche danger forecast for Sunday

Northern region of main Alpine ridge from Reuss to Walensee; main Alpine ridge from Simplon area to lower Engadine; northern and central Tessine; Grisons not including Prättigau:

*Considerable Avalanche Danger (Level 3)*

The avalanche prone locations are on snowdrift slopes of all aspects in particular, on the southern flanks of the Alps above approximately 1800 m, otherwise above approximately 2000 m.

Slab avalanches can be triggered by single persons, thus snowdrift should be avoided where possible. Isolated unprovoked avalanches are possible. In this situation, extensive experience in the assessment of avalanche danger as well as careful route planning is required.

Remaining regions of the Swiss Alps:

*Moderate Avalanche Danger (Level 2)*

The avalanche prone locations are on snowdrift slopes of all aspects above approximately 2000 m in particular, in southern Tessine above approximately 1500 m. The frequency of avalanche prone locations increases with rising altitude. Fresh snowdrift can be easily released and should be avoided.

In the south on sunny slopes beneath about 1800 m, wet sluffs can be released along the ground.

### Trend for Monday and Tuesday

On Monday in the west and in the south it is quite sunny. In the northeast, a small amount of snow will fall. On Tuesday it is predominantly sunny. The avalanche danger will decrease only slowly. The rising temperatures must be judged rather critically.

**Additional information:** 'Fax-on-demand' (CHF 1.49/min.)  
0900 59 2020 List of fax aids SLF  
0900 59 2025 Snow Depths Map (in case of major change)  
0900 59 2026 New Snow Map daily  
0900 162 338 Alpine Weather Report MeteoSwiss  
(CHF 2./min.)  
Weather Information in collaboration  
with MeteoSwiss

**Regional avalanche bulletins** (CHF 1.49/min.)  
0900 59 20 31 Central Switzerland  
0900 59 20 32 Lower Valais / VD  
0900 59 20 33 Upper Valais  
0900 59 20 34 North and Central Grisons  
0900 59 20 35 South Grisons  
0900 59 20 36 Bernese Oberland  
0900 59 20 37 Eastern Part of the Northern Slope of the Alps

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# Avalanche danger forecast

Sunday, 28. January 2007

