

National avalanche bulletin no. 80

from Thursday, 15 February 2007, 18:30 hours

Regionally considerable avalanche danger

Current conditions

By Thursday midday in Lower Valais, on the northern flanks of the Alps and in northern Grisons, 5 to 20 cm of snow fell. The snow line in the west was initially at about 1800 m, then sank lower. In the morning, clouds moved past the eastern part of the northern flanks of the Alps. Subsequently it became predominantly sunny in the west, as it already was in the remaining regions. Moderate to strong winds shifted towards north to northeast and prevailed throughout the day. Midday temperatures at 2000 m were minus 4 degrees in the north and plus 2 degrees in the south.

The snowdrift accumulations of recent days are large, particularly in the west. The bonding between the various snowdrift layers is partly still weak.

Short-term development

On Friday it will be sunny. Midday temperatures at 2000 m will increase markedly. In the west and the south the temperature will be plus 6 degrees and in the east, plus 1 degree. Light to moderate northeasterly winds will prevail.

The snowpack will continue to settle. With the intense warming the likelihood of dry avalanches being released will increase temporarily. On sunny slopes, the snowpack will become moist well into higher altitude zones.

Avalanche danger forecast for Friday

Northern Alpine ridge; Leysin; Pays d'Enhaut; Gstaad; Lenk; Valais, Gotthard region; northern and central Grisons not including Zervreila, Rheinwald and Avers; Engadine and Ofenpass:

Considerable Avalanche Danger (Level 3)

On the northern Alpine ridge from the Glarus Alps to Liechtenstein as well as in the indicated areas of Grisons, the avalanche prone locations are primarily in gullies, bowls and areas adjacent to the ridge line in all aspects above approximately 2200 m.

In the remaining regions of this danger level, the avalanche prone locations are more widely spread. They are primarily on snowdrift slopes in all aspects above approximately 2000 m.

Single persons can trigger avalanches. In the west these can attain medium size. Extensive experience in the assessment of avalanche danger and maintaining distances between persons are important.

The remaining regions of the Swiss Alps:

Moderate Avalanche Danger (Level 2)

In the northern regions of this danger level, the avalanche prone locations are on snowdrift slopes in all aspects above approximately 1800 m in particular. In the southern regions of this danger level, avalanche prone locations are primarily in gullies and bowls in all aspects above approximately 2200 m.

Due to the warming and the radiation, moist snow slides and avalanches can be expected. On sunny slopes, they should be anticipated below about 2800 m, otherwise below about 2000 m.

Trend for Saturday and Sunday

On Saturday in the north it will be sunny and in the south overcast. On Sunday in the east it will be sunny, elsewhere cloudy. Temperatures will decrease. The avalanche danger will diminish.

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

Feedback information:
Free telephone: 0800 800 187
Free fax: 0800 800 188
Internet: <http://www.slf.ch>
Email: lwp@slf.ch
WAP: wap.slf.ch
Teletext: Page 782 (SF DRS)

Avalanche danger forecast

Friday, 16. February 2007

Danger level

-  1 low
-  2 MODERATE
-  3 CONSIDERABLE
-  4 high
-  5 very high

