

National avalanche bulletin no. 83

from Sunday, 18 February 2007, 18:30 hours

Moderate avalanche danger

Current conditions

On Sunday it was sunny in the north, on the southern Alpine flank it was predominantly overcast. Light to moderate mostly southerly winds prevailed in the mountains. The midday temperature in the north at 2000 m was plus 2 degrees, on the southern flank of the Alps it was minus 5 degrees.

On steep southern slopes the snow became moist well into higher altitude zones. The snowdrift accumulations which formed over the last week settled intensely on southern slopes. On shady slopes the bonding between the various snowdrift layers is in part still weak. Consequently, released avalanches can slide all the way to the valley floor.

At 2000 m the snow depths on the northern Alpine ridge, in Lower Valais, in the Gotthard region and in Prättigau are 80 to 130 cm, in the remaining regions, 50 to 80 cm.

Short-term development

On Monday on the northern flank of the Alps a few centimetres of snow will fall. In the remaining regions it will be mostly cloudy. The skies will slowly clear up in the course of the day. Midday temperatures at 2000 m will be minus 2 to minus 4 degrees. Winds will remain light and shift to the north. The small amount of precipitation will scarcely change the avalanche situation.

Avalanche danger forecast for Monday

The entire region of the Swiss Alps:

Moderate Avalanche Danger (Level 2)

Along the southern flank of the Alps the avalanche prone locations are primarily in west to north to southeast-facing gullies and bowls above approximately 2200 m. In the remaining regions the especially dangerous places are on steep slopes with older larger amounts, as well as in part smaller amounts of fresh snowdrift accumulations in particular. This is the case primarily in west to north to southeast-facing slopes above approximately 2000 m. Avalanches, especially in transitions from shallow snowpack to areas with lots of snow, can be triggered through high additional loading, as for example through a fall or several winter sports participants close together.

Trend for Tuesday and Wednesday

On both days it will again be predominantly sunny. Mostly light winds will prevail. Temperatures are rather mild, with the freezing level at 2000 m. The avalanche danger will hardly change.

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

Monday, 19. February 2007

Danger level

-  1 low
-  **2 MODERATE**
-  3 considerable
-  4 high
-  5 very high

