

National avalanche bulletin no. 98

from Monday, 5 March 2007, 18:30 hours

Widespread considerable avalanche danger

Current conditions

Monday was quite sunny in Ticino and Grisons. In the north it was overcast, and 5 to 10 cm of snow fell. Midday temperatures were about minus 2 degrees in the north and plus 2 degrees in the south. The southwesterly wind was light to moderate.

Last week's fresh snow and snow drift accumulations are increasingly settling and bonding. The large snow drift accumulations in particular are becoming more stable. The most treacherous places are where the snowpack is shallow at the edges of gullies and bowls. The bonding between snow drift accumulations and the old snowpack is still poor in places, especially on shady slopes at higher altitudes. Avalanches can be released, even penetrating the old snow cover.

Short-term development

On Tuesday in the south it will be overcast, and 10 to 20 cm of snow will fall above approximately 1500 m. In the north a foehn wind will give rise to rather pleasant weather, especially in the morning. Midday temperatures at 2000 m will be about plus 1 degree. The southwesterly to southerly wind will blow moderate to strong.

Fresh snow drift accumulations will form, especially in the south and the regions that are regularly exposed to the foehn.

Avalanche danger forecast for Tuesday

Valais; northern flank of the Alps excluding the northern prealps; northern Ticino; Northern and Central Grisons excluding both Rheinwald and Avers; also Lower Engadine:

Considerable avalanche danger (level 3)

Avalanche prone locations are to be found, in particular, on west to north to southeast facing steep slopes. These locations are above approximately 2000 m on the northern flank of the Eastern Swiss Alps and northern Grisons, and above approximately 2200 m elsewhere. Last week's snow drift accumulations represent the main danger. Avalanches can be triggered by a single snow sport participant. In particular, transitions from a shallow snowpack into gullies and bowls are treacherous. Careful route selection is important.

Northern prealps; central Ticino; Rheinwald; Avers; Upper Engadine and Grisons southern valleys:

Moderate avalanche danger (level 2)

Avalanche prone locations are to be found, in particular, on southwest to north to southeast facing steep slopes. These locations are above approximately 1800 m in the northern prealps. Last week's snow drift accumulations must be evaluated with care and prudence.

In the southern regions subject to this danger level, the avalanche prone locations are to be found in particular above approximately 2000 m. With the occurrence of fresh snow drift accumulations, the danger will increase slightly there during the day.

During the day isolated wet snow slides and avalanches can occur below approximately 2400 m, especially on steep sunny slopes.

Trend for Wednesday and Thursday

On Wednesday snow will fall in the south. In the north the snowfall will be only light. Tuesday will be increasingly sunny. The avalanche danger will increase in the south. It will decrease slowly in the north.

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

Tuesday, 6. March 2007

