

# National avalanche bulletin no. 101

from Thursday, 8 March 2007, 18:30 hours

# In the south still considerable avalanche danger

#### **Current conditions**

On Thursday it was predominantly cloudy along the northern flank of the Alps, and a few centimetres of snow fell. In the Valais, on the southern flank of the Alps and in the Engadine there were sunny intervals. The midday temperatures at 2000 m were minus 3 degrees in the north and plus 2 degrees in the south. Light to moderate northerly winds prevailed.

The new snow in the south from the beginning of the week is slowly consolidating. In the northern regions, in particular the shady transitions from shallow snowpack to deep snow in steep gullies and bowls with old snowdrift have to be judged critically. Avalanches can fracture down to the old snowpack.

### **Short-term development**

On Friday it will be mostly sunny. Towards evening clouds will move in from the west. The midday temperatures at 2000 m are minus 4 degrees in the north, minus 1 degree in the west and the south. Light to moderate northerly winds will prevail, though along the central main Alpine ridge winds will intermittently be strong. Especially in areas adjacent to the ridge line and pass areas, fresh, rather small snowdrift accumulations will form.

#### Avalanche danger forecast for Friday

Main Alpine ridge from Saastal to the Bernina region; Upper Engadine; northern and central Ticino; Calanca; Misox; Bergell and Puschlav:

Considerable Avalanche Danger (Level 3)

The avalanche prone locations are primarily on southwest to north to southeast- facing steep slopes as well as in areas adjacent to the ridge line in all aspects above approximately 2000 m. The new snow from the beginning of this week can be released by single freeriders. Experience in the assessment of avalanche danger is important.

#### The remaining regions of the Swiss Alps:

Moderate Avalanche Danger (Level 2)

The avalanche prone locations are above approximately 2000 m. In the northern Prealpes they are primarily on west to north to east-facing steep slopes. In the remaining regions of this danger level the avalanche prone locations are particularly on southwest to north to southeast-facing steep slopes as well as in areas adjacent to the ridge line in all aspects.

Especially dangerous are the shallow snowpack transitions to steep gullies and bowls. Avalanches can be triggered in particular through high additional loading, for example through a group of people without sufficient distance between individuals.

The avalanche danger is subject to deviations and changes through the course of the day and will rise slightly with increasing radiation. In all regions, especially on steep sunny slopes below about 2200 m, wet snow slides will be possible in the course of the day.

# **Trend for Saturday and Sunday**

On Saturday, about 10 cm of snow will fall along the northern flank of the Alps. Temperatures will decrease and wet avalanches are unlikely. On Sunday it will be sunny and mild. The danger of wet avalanches will again increase.

	Additional information: 'Fax-on-demand' (CHF 1.49/min.)		Regional avalanche bulletins (CHF 1.49/min.) Feedback information:	
	0900 59 2020	List of fax aids SLF	0900 59 20 31 Central Switzerland	Free telephone: 0800 800 187
	0900 59 2025	Snow Depths Map (in case of major change)	0900 59 20 32 Lower Valais / VD	Free fax: 0800 800 188
	0900 59 2026	New Snow Map daily	0900 59 20 33 Upper Valais	Internet: http://www.slf.ch
	0900 162 338	Alpine Weather Report MeteoSwiss	0900 59 20 34 North and Central Grisons	Email: lwp@slf.ch
		(CHF 2./min.)	0900 59 20 35 South Grisons	WAP: wap.slf.ch
	Weather Information in collaboration		0900 59 20 36 Bernese Oberland	Teletext: Page 782 (SF DRS)
with MeteoSwiss			0900 59 20 37 Eastern Part of the Northern Slope of the Alps	

