

National avalanche bulletin no. 104

from Sunday, 11 March 2007, 18:30 hours

Special caution with snowdrift accumulations from the weekend

Current conditions

Saturday night was clear and on Sunday it was sunny everywhere. The midday temperatures at 2000 m were minus 2 degrees in the north and zero degrees in the south. Moderate to strong easterly winds prevailed widespread in the mountains.

The fresh snowdrift accumulations are consolidating on the surface and, increasingly, on sunny slopes in particular. In deeper layers there are still loosely bonded intermediate layers, partly on unfavourable wind crusts and melt-freeze crusts. Along the northern flank of the Alps above approximately 2400 m, moreover, the snow layering is weak, particularly in inneralpine regions.

Short-term development

Sunday night it will be clear. On Monday it will be sunny once more and temperatures will rise slightly again in the mountains. At midday at 2000 m the temperature will be plus 3 degrees. Winds will shift to southeast and be light to moderate in the mountains.

The snow which fell over the weekend is consolidating quickly, particularly on sunny slopes. On north-facing slopes it will still remain powdery. The snowdrift accumulations must still be judged critically. The danger of wet snow slides and avalanches will increase in the course of the day.

Avalanche danger forecast for Monday

Northern flank of the Alps with the exception of the Prealpes and the regions Lauterbrunnen, Brienersee and Grindelwald; also the Gotthard region; northern Prättigau and the western Silvretta:

Considerable Avalanche Danger (Level 3)

The avalanche prone locations are primarily on southwest to north to southeast- facing snowdrift slopes as well as areas adjacent to the ridge line in all aspects above approximately 2000 m. Particularly the snowdrift accumulations from the weekend which have in part consolidated slightly must be judged critically as they are especially treacherous.

Even single persons can trigger avalanches relatively easily in these regions.

The remaining regions of the Swiss Alps:

Moderate Avalanche Danger (Level 2)

The avalanche prone locations are on steep slopes in all aspects, especially above approximately 2000 m. In the northern Prealpes and the regions of Lauterbrunnen, Brienersee and Grindelwald, the avalanche prone locations are above approximately 1800 m. In all regions, the rather small, fresh snowdrift accumulations should be given special heed and avoided where possible. Also here, avalanches can be triggered by single freeriders.

In general, however, it requires larger additional loading. In all regions of this danger level, the avalanche danger increases above 2600 m towards the level "considerable".

In all regions, but particularly in those regions with new snow, in the course of the day on sunny slopes, increasingly wet, natural snow slides and avalanches must again be expected.

Trend for Tuesday and Wednesday

On Tuesday and Wednesday the weather will be pleasant with mild, springtime temperatures. The danger of dry avalanches will continue to slowly decrease. The danger of wet avalanches will increase in the course of each day.

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, 12. March 2007

Danger level

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

