

## National avalanche bulletin no. 110

from Saturday, 17 March 2007, 18:30 hours

### *Widespread favourable avalanche situation*

#### Current conditions

After a generally clear night it was once again sunny on Saturday morning. Around midday, clouds moved in from the northwest. Light to moderate winds prevailed. Midday temperatures at 2000 m were zero to minus 2 degrees in the north and plus 3 degrees in the south.

On steep south facing slopes the snowpack is capable of bearing loads in the morning up to zones above 2800 m and is stable. On north facing slopes the snow in higher altitude zones is still powdery or wind pressed and brittle. The consolidation of the snowpack is proceeding more slowly in such places than on south facing slopes. The weak layers in the snowpack and the weak snow fundament are, particularly in the inneralpine regions, still trigger sensitive in part. However, the frequency of avalanche prone locations is on the decrease.

#### Short-term development

In the Valais and along the southern flank of the Alps the night will be mostly clear, in the remaining regions only partly clear. On Sunday morning it will then be quite sunny again. In the afternoon a new cloud front will move in from the northwest. Renewed moderate to strong westerly winds will prevail. The midday temperature at 2000 m will be approximately minus 1 degree.

Depending on how much it cools off during the night and the intensity of the radiation during the day, the snowpack will soften once again on steep south facing slopes. Fresh snowdrift accumulations will initially remain small.

#### Avalanche danger forecast for Sunday

Whole region of the Swiss Alps:

##### *Moderate Avalanche Danger (Level 2)*

The avalanche prone locations are primarily on west to north to east-facing very steep slopes. Along the northern flank of the Alps, in the Gotthard region as well as in north and central Grisons, the avalanche prone locations are primarily above approximately 2000 m, elsewhere above approximately 2200 m.

Avalanches can be released primarily through high additional loading. In all regions on north facing steep slopes there is partly still weak bonding between the various snow layers near to the surface. In the inneralpine regions of the Valais and Grisons, avalanches can fracture down to the ground and attain medium size. Careful route planning remains important.

In all regions the avalanche danger will increase slightly in the course of the day. On steep south facing slopes moist snow slides are possible.

#### Trend for Monday and Tuesday

Sunday night it will begin to snow, especially on the northern flank of the Alps. Temperatures will decrease rapidly and the snow line will be at about 1500 m to begin with, then in the course of the day descend to lower regions. On Tuesday it will be variable with snow showers. The avalanche danger will increase on Monday in the west and the north regionally.

**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

Sunday, 18. March 2007

The danger of dry and moist snow slides increases from midday.

Danger level

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

