

National avalanche bulletin no. 124

from Saturday, 31 March 2007, 18:30 hours

Generally favourable avalanche situation

Current conditions

On Friday night up to 10 cm of snow fell widespread, locally somewhat more. During the day on Saturday it was sunny in the Valais, overcast along the southern flank of the Alps. On the northern flank of the Alps and in the remaining Grisons there were sunny intervals during the course of the day. The midday temperature at 2000 m was minus 3 degrees. Light to moderate southerly winds prevailed. The snowpack is generally quite well consolidated. Especially on north facing slopes there are in places still layers incorporated in the snowpack which are weak and can fracture, particularly through high additional loading. In general this is the case primarily in the layers close to the surface. Especially in inneralpine regions, furthermore, the snowpack fundament is weak, which can lead to greater fracture depths in the avalanches.

On steep south facing slopes the snowpack up into high altitude zones has a melt freeze crust on the surface which widespread is capable of bearing loads in the morning. On north facing slopes there is powder snow, in part also a breakable crust.

Short-term development

North of the main Alpine ridge it will be predominantly sunny on Sunday. Along the main Alpine ridge and south thereof, it will be overcast and above approximately 1700 m up to 10 cm of snow is expected. Light to moderate southerly winds will prevail. The midday temperature at 2000 m in northern regions will be about plus 2 degrees, in southern regions minus 2 degrees.

Avalanche danger forecast for Sunday

Northern Alpine ridge; Valais; Ticino and Grisons:

Moderate Avalanche Danger (Level 2)

The avalanche prone locations are primarily on west to north to east facing steep slopes. In the Lower Engadine they are above approximately 2400 m, elsewhere above approximately 2200 m. In areas adjacent to the ridge line, small but for the most part easily triggered snowdrift accumulations will form. Particularly very steep, north facing slopes should be ventured upon only singly. Careful route selection is important.

Northern Prealpes and the remaining western part of the northern flank of the Alps:

Low Avalanche Danger (Level 1)

Isolated avalanche prone locations are primarily on extremely steep north facing slopes where high additional loading can cause avalanches to be released.

In the regions north of the main Alpine ridge below about 2400 m, in the course of the day once again increasingly frequent snow slides and small avalanches on very steep, south facing slopes are possible.

Trend for Monday and Tuesday

On Monday and Tuesday it will be predominantly sunny and somewhat warmer. The avalanche danger will increase slightly, although it is increasingly subject to an augmenting curve in the course of the 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

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

Sunday, 1. April 2007

Below about 2400 m on steep sunny slopes moist slides and small moist avalanches are possible.

Danger level

1 LOW

2 MODERATE

3 considerable

4 high

5 very high

