

National avalanche bulletin no. 135

from Wednesday, 11 April 2007, 18:30 hours

Favourable backcountry touring conditions in the morning

Current conditions

On Wednesday it was sunny. Light to moderate southerly to southeasterly winds prevailed. The midday temperature at 2000 m was plus 7 degrees.

On north facing slopes the snow line on the northern flank of the Alps was about 1200 to 1400 m, in the remaining regions about 1600 to 1800 m. On south facing slopes the snow line was about 400 m higher.

Particularly in the inneralpine regions of Grisons the snowpack fundament is often weak on north facing slopes. Dry avalanches can break through to the ground in such places. Elsewhere the snow layering is generally quite favourable. Pronounced weak layers are barely present.

Short-term development

Wednesday night it will be clear for the most part, permitting solid crusts to form on the snowpack surface. On Thursday it will be predominantly sunny. During the afternoon, especially in the western part of the main Alpine ridge, large precipitation clouds will form, and isolated showers will be possible in those areas. The midday temperatures at 2000 m are plus 8 degrees in northern regions, plus 6 degrees in southern regions. Light to moderate southerly winds will prevail.

Favourable backcountry touring conditions will prevail in the morning. During the course of the day, the danger of wet avalanches will rise significantly.

Avalanche danger forecast for Thursday

Central Valais; Arosa; Davos; Domleschg - Lenzerheide; Albulatal; Schams; Oberhalbstein; Upper Engadine north of the Inn; Lower Engadine:

Moderate Avalanche Danger (Level 2)

The avalanche prone locations are primarily on northwest to north to northeast facing steep slopes above approximately 2400 m. Isolated avalanches can fracture down to the weak fundament of the old snow cover. Especially in the indicated aspects and altitude zones, maintaining distances between persons and single descents are recommended.

Remaining regions of the Swiss Alps:

Low Avalanche Danger (Level 1)

Isolated avalanche prone locations are primarily on extremely steep north facing slopes above approximately 2400 m. The danger of being swept along and falling should be heeded.

Along the northern flank of the Alps, in the Valais and Grisons excluding Calanca and Misox, the danger of wet avalanches will augment to the level "considerable" in the course of the day. Particularly below about 2600 m wet avalanches can be expected. On sunny slopes moist snow slides can also be released in higher altitude zones. Backcountry touring and freeriding activities should be completely early.

Trend for Friday and Saturday

On Friday in western regions it will be quite sunny, elsewhere mostly so. During the second half of the day, especially in southern Valais, local showers are possible. On Saturday it will be sunny throughout Switzerland. Moderate southerly winds will prevail. It will remain mild, with the freezing level at 3000 m. In those places where the night has been clear, there will be favourable avalanche conditions in the morning.

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:
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WAP: wap.slf.ch
Teletext: Page 782 (SF DRS)

Danger forecast for dry snow avalanches

Thursday, 12. April 2007

Danger level

- 1 LOW
- 2 MODERATE
- 3 considerable
- 4 high
- 5 very high

Moderate mainly
for steep slopes
in the aspects NW - NE
N
W E
S
above about 2400m

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S
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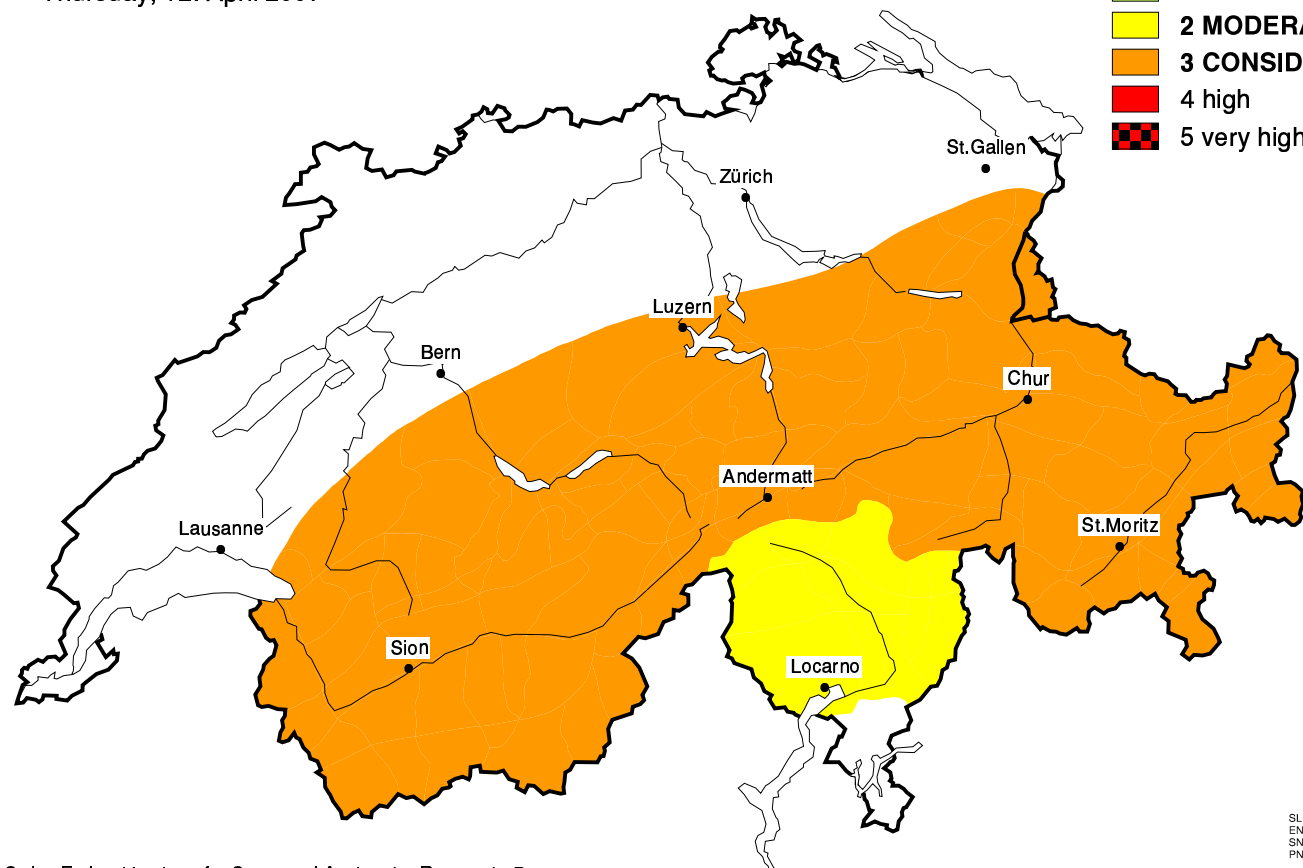
Swiss Federal Institute for Snow and Avalanche Research, Davos

Danger for wet snow avalanches in the course of the day

Thursday, 12. April 2007

Danger level

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



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