

## National avalanche bulletin no. 138

from Saturday, 14 April 2007, 18:30 hours

*Favourable avalanche situation in early morning, rising avalanche danger during the day*

### Current conditions

On Saturday the sun was shining far and wide. Solely along the western part of the main Alpine ridge was the sun's radiation intermittently reduced by the clouds. Moderate to strong southeasterly winds prevailed. The midday temperature at 2000 m was plus 8 degrees.

The snow depths are far below average for the season throughout the entire Swiss Alps. On north facing slopes above 1400 to 1800 m there is still snow. On south facing slopes the snow line is 1800 to 2200 m. The snowpack on flat lying fields is thoroughly moistened up to approximately 2500 m.

In the inneralpine regions of the Valais and Grisons the snowpack fundament on north facing slopes is often weak. Dry avalanches break through to the ground in these areas. In the remaining regions the snow layering is generally quite favourable. Pronounced weak layers are barely present.

### Short-term development

Saturday night the skies will be clear and in higher altitude zones the snowpack surface will freeze solidly. On Sunday it will once again be predominantly sunny. The midday temperature at 2000 m is plus 8 degrees. Light easterly winds will prevail.

Since the current conditions actually have to be compared with the conditions in May of other years, for backcountry touring a very early start and early return are recommended. Especially on east facing slopes moist avalanches can be released even in the morning hours. In the course of the day the danger of wet avalanches in all aspects will increase.

### Avalanche danger forecast for Sunday

Davos; Albulatal; Oberhalbstein; Avers; Upper Engadine north of the Inn; Lower Engadine:

#### *Moderate Danger of Dry Avalanches (Level 2)*

The avalanche prone locations are primarily on northwest to north to northeast facing steep slopes above approximately 2500 m. The avalanche prone locations are not widespread. In isolated cases, however, even single persons can trigger avalanches. The avalanches generally fracture down to the weak fundament of the snowpack. Especially in the indicated aspects and altitude zones, maintaining distances between persons and single descents are recommended.

Remaining regions of the Swiss Alps:

#### *Low Danger of Dry Avalanches (Level 1)*

Isolated avalanche prone locations are primarily on extremely steep north facing slopes. The hazards of being swept along and falling with the accompanying dangers of injury should be heeded.

In the northern part of the main Alpine ridge, in the Valais, in the central part of the main Alpine ridge and in Grisons, the danger of wet avalanches below approximately 2800 m will rise to the level "considerable" in the course of the day. On sunny slopes moist snow slides can also be released in higher altitude zones. Backcountry touring and freeriding activities should be completed early.

### Trend for Monday and Tuesday

On both days, cumulonimbus clouds will form during the afternoon, otherwise it will remain sunny and mild. Light easterly winds will prevail. In the early morning favourable backcountry touring conditions will prevail. Through the daytime cycle of warming, however, the danger of wet avalanches will rise significantly each day.

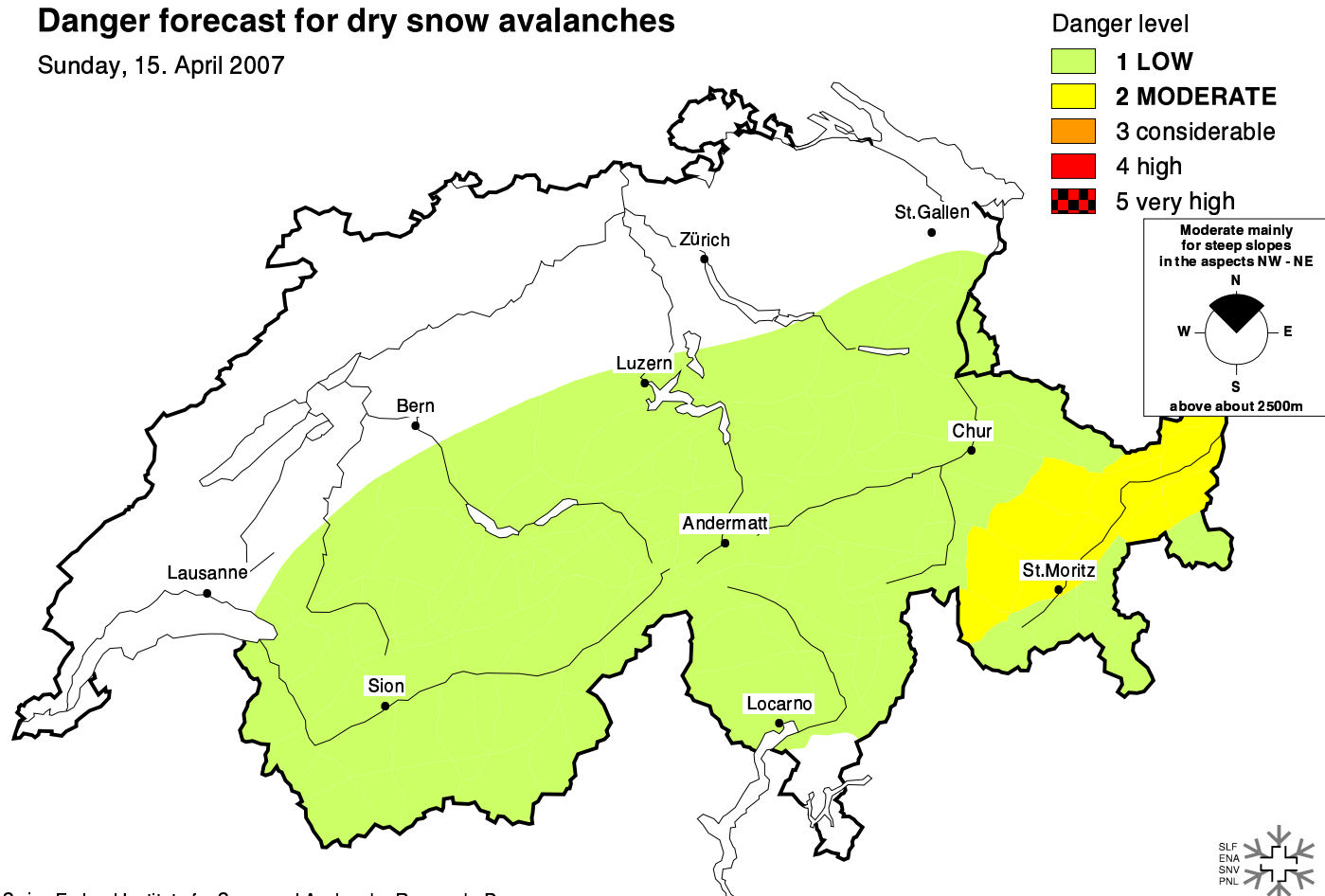
**Additional information:** 'Fax-on-demand' (CHF 1.49/min.)  
0900 59 2020 List of fax aids SLF  
0900 59 2025 Snow Depths Map (in case of major change)  
0900 59 2026 New Snow Map daily  
0900 162 338 Alpine Weather Report MeteoSwiss  
(CHF 2./min.)  
Weather Information in collaboration  
with MeteoSwiss

**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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## Danger forecast for dry snow avalanches

Sunday, 15. April 2007



## Danger for wet snow avalanches in the course of the day

Sunday, 15. April 2007

