

## National avalanche bulletin no. 62

for Wednesday, 9 January 2008

issue date 8.1.2008, 18:30 hours

### *Widespread considerable avalanche danger*

#### Current conditions

On Tuesday it was sunny. The westerly to southerly winds were light to moderate. The midday temperature at 2000 m was about minus 2 degrees.

As the temperature dropped, the bonding of the snowpack improved at intermediate altitudes. The various layers of the snow drift accumulations that have formed in recent days are still prone to triggering in some places. The weak layers in the old snowpack remain treacherous, especially in areas with shallow snow cover and on slopes where little snow sport activity has taken place until the start of the year.

#### Short-term development

The south and east will have sunny spells on Wednesday morning, but the weather will otherwise be mostly cloudy. The southwesterly wind will blow moderate to strong. The midday temperature at 2000 m will be about minus 5 degrees in Grisons and the south, and about minus 1 degree elsewhere. In Valais and on the northern flank of the Alps, a few centimetres of snow will fall above approximately 1600 m in the afternoon.

Fresh, generally small snow drift accumulations will form adjacent to the ridge line.

#### Avalanche danger forecast for Wednesday

Entire region of the Swiss Alps excluding central and southern Ticino:

##### *Considerable avalanche danger (level 3)*

The avalanche prone locations are to be found, in particular, on west to north to south facing aspects above approximately 2000 m. On the northern flank of the Alps and in Valais and northern Ticino, they are to be found on steep slopes, and in Grisons on wind-loaded slopes in particular.

In all the areas subject to this danger level, avalanches can be released by a single winter sport participant. The avalanche prone locations are loosely bonded layers in the old snowpack, as well as older snow drift accumulations. These accumulations are lightly covered with fresh snow and therefore often difficult to recognise. Experience in the assessment of the avalanche situation is required.

Central and southern Ticino:

##### *Moderate avalanche danger (level 2)*

The avalanche prone locations are to be found, in particular, on west to north to southeast facing wind-loaded slopes above approximately 2000 m. On north facing slopes in particular, isolated avalanches can be triggered even by small additional loads. Careful route selection is recommended.

#### Trend for Thursday and Friday

Apart from cloudbanks in the west, Thursday will be mostly sunny. The westerly wind will blow moderate to strong. The freezing level will rise to approximately 2000 m. On Friday snow will fall above approximately 1600 m in the south. Under the influence of a foehn wind, the weather in the north will be quite sunny. The avalanche danger will decrease slowly before increasing in the south on Friday.

#### 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

Weather Information in collaboration with MeteoSwiss

0900 162 138 / 338 Alpine Weather Report MeteoSwiss phone/fax  
(phone: CHF 1.20/min) (fax: CHF 2.--/min)

#### 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

Internet: <http://www.slf.ch>

WAP: [wap.slf.ch](http://wap.slf.ch)

Teletext: Page 782 (SF DRS)

Phone: 187 (Fr. 0.50/call and min)

#### Feedback information:






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# Avalanche danger forecast

for Wednesday, 9. January 2008

Danger level

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

