

National avalanche bulletin no. 26

for Sunday, 30 November 2008

issue date 29.11.2008, 18:30 hours

Amid storms and new snow, considerable avalanche danger widespread

Current conditions

On Saturday it was heavily overcast on the Main Alpine Ridge and south thereof. In northern regions it was intermittently sunny. From Thursday evening until Saturday midday on the southern flank of the Alps and in the Upper Engadine, there was 20 to 40 cm of new snow. Along the remaining Main Alpine Ridge from the Saastal into the Lower Engadine, there was 10 to 20 cm of snowfall, elsewhere only a few centimeters. On Saturday at midday, the temperatures at 2000 m were minus 2 degrees in northern regions and minus 4 degrees in southern regions. Moderate southwesterly winds prevailed.

Short-term development

On Saturday night in southern regions, snowfall will again set in. The southwesterly winds will increase in strength and be strong to stormy. Most of the precipitation and the highest wind speeds are anticipated during the night. By Sunday evening on the southern flank of the Alps, 20 to 30 cm of snow is expected, along the remaining Main Alpine Ridge and in the Engadine, 10 to 20 cm of snowfall. In the remaining regions, only a few centimeters of snow is anticipated. During the day on Sunday, bright skies could appear in northern regions. Midday temperatures at 2000 m will be minus 3 degrees in northern regions, minus 6 degrees in southern regions.

Both the new snow and old snow alike will be transported by the winds. Fresh snowdrift accumulations are expected to form and be deposited in areas far removed from the ridge lines in particular.

Avalanche danger forecast for Sunday

Swiss Alps excluding northern Prealps and Sotto Ceneri:

Considerable avalanche danger (Level 3)

Along the Main Alpine Ridge, in northern and central Ticino, in the Upper Engadine and in the southern valleys of Grisons, the avalanche prone locations are to be found primarily on wind loaded slopes in all aspects above approximately 1800 m. Isolated natural avalanches attaining medium size are possible. Critical conditions prevail for backcountry and freeriding tours.

On the northern flank of the Alps not including the Prealps, as well as in the remaining regions of Valais and Grisons, the avalanche prone locations are to be found on west to north to southeast facing wind loaded slopes and in areas adjacent to ridge lines and pass areas in all aspects above approximately 2000 m in particular.

In all regions of this danger level, the major hazard stems from freshly formed snowdrift. Single persons can trigger slab avalanches. Especially on north facing slopes, isolated avalanches can even fracture down into the old snowpack.

Northern Prealps; Sotto Ceneri:

Moderate avalanche danger (Level 2)

The avalanche prone locations are to be found primarily on wind loaded slopes in all aspects above approximately 1600 m. Freshly formed snowdrift accumulations should be avoided whenever possible. Prudent route selection is essential.

In areas below about 2200 m, particularly on steep, smooth, south facing slopes, full depth snowslides are possible.

Trend for Monday and Tuesday

On Sunday night the foehn winds will slacken off. On Monday, widespread snowfall is expected. On Tuesday, variable conditions are anticipated, including continuing snow showers. Amid westerly winds, it will remain cold. The avalanche danger is not expected to change significantly.

National avalanche bulletin as an MMS (Fr. 0.50/MMS)

Send an SMS with the corresponding key word to the speed dial number 162.

LAWINE overview of the keywords
LAWCHD national avalanche bulletin (german)

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 (Fr. 0.50/MMS)

LAWZCH Central Switzerland
LAWBVS Lower Valais / VD
LAWOVS Upper Valais
LAWNGR North and Central Grisons
LAWSGR South Grisons
LAWBEO Bernese Oberland
LAWEAN Eastern Part of the Northern Slope of the Alps

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

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

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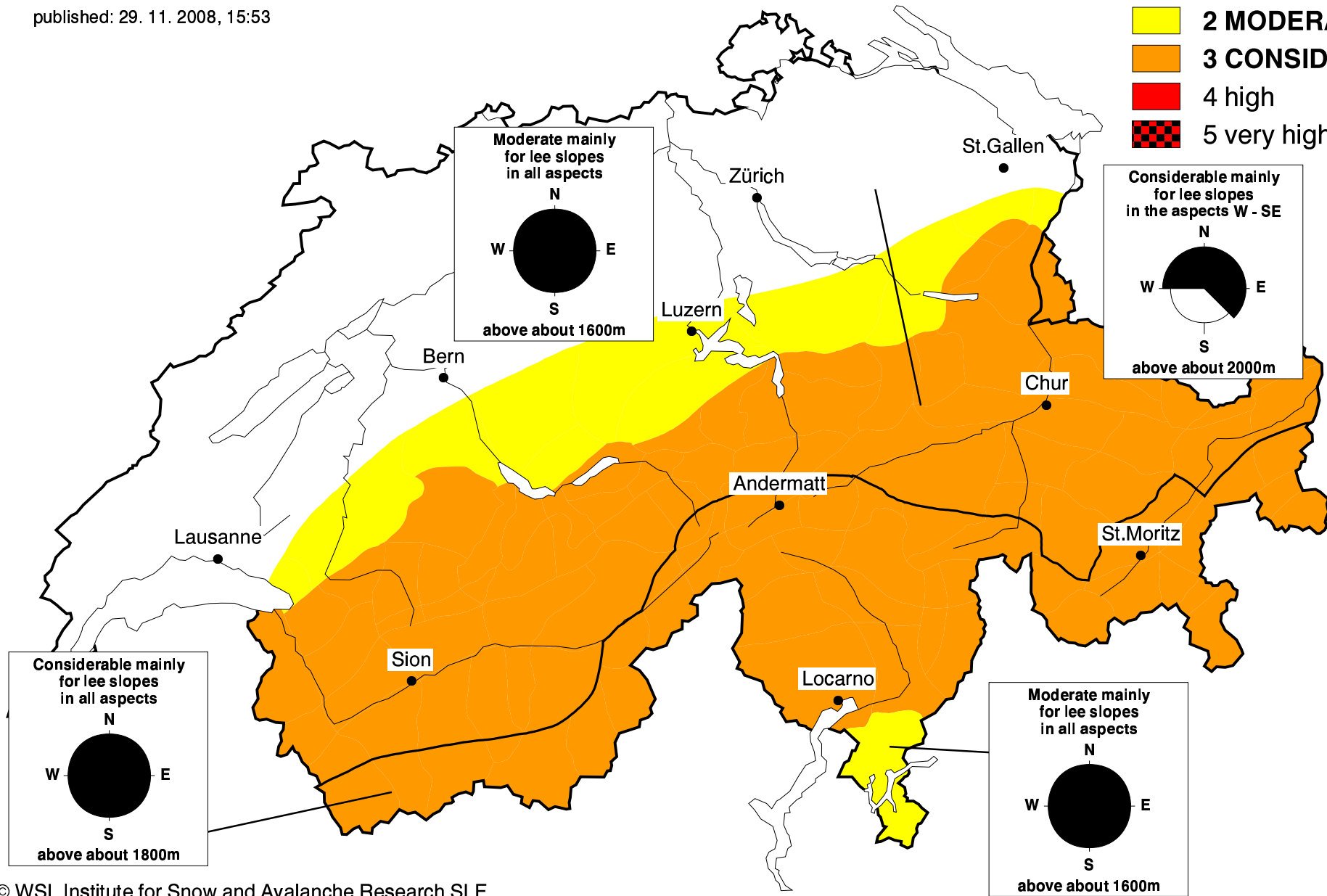
Avalanche danger forecast

for Sunday, 30. November 2008

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Danger level

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








Avalanche danger forecast

for Sunday, 30. November 2008

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Danger level

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

