

National avalanche bulletin no. 28

for Tuesday, 2 December 2008

issue date 1.12.2008, 18:30 hours

High avalanche danger in some regions for those engaging in snow sport activities

Current conditions

From Sunday until Monday evening, a further 45 to 70 cm of snow fell on the southern flank of the Swiss Alps and in Upper Engadine. In the regions adjacent to the main Alpine ridge and in central Grisons, 25 to 45 cm of snow fell. Less than 25 cm fell in the other regions. The three-day fresh snow amounts are about 75 to 120 cm on the southern flank of the Alps and in Upper Engadine, and 35 to 60 cm in the regions adjacent to the central and eastern parts of the main Alpine ridge. In Upper Engadine, the snow depths are approaching their greatest for many years. The westerly wind was moderate. The midday temperature at 2000 m was about minus 6 degrees.

The stormy southerly winds gave rise to brittle snow drift accumulations at the weekend, especially at high altitude. These remain prone to triggering, as evidenced by natural avalanches in the regions exposed to heavier precipitation.

Short-term development

By Tuesday evening, 5 cm of snow will fall over a wide area. As much as 15 cm of snow will fall in the eastern regions and Grisons. The westerly wind will be light to moderate. Midday temperatures at 2000 m will be about minus 7 degrees. In the central and eastern parts of the main Alpine ridge and in the south thereof, the weekend's fresh snow and underlying snow drift accumulations will give rise to a critical avalanche situation.

Avalanche danger forecast for Tuesday

Simplon region; main Alpine ridge from the Oberalp Pass to the Ofen Pass; northern Ticino;

Oberhalbstein, Upper Engadine and Grisons southern valleys:

High avalanche danger (level 4)

The avalanche prone locations are to be found on steep slopes of all aspects above approximately 1800 m. Natural avalanches are still to be expected, especially at night. For those engaging in snow sport activities outside marked and open pistes, the situation remains dangerous, even during the day. Avalanches can be released easily and be fairly large.

Northern Alpine ridge; rest of Valais; southern Urseren; rest of Grisons; central and southern Ticino:

Considerable avalanche danger (level 3)

The avalanche prone locations are steep slopes of all aspects. Such locations are to be found above approximately 1800 m in the rest of Upper Valais, the rest of central Grisons, the rest of Lower Engadine, and in central and southern Ticino, and above approximately 2200 m in the other regions subject to this danger level. Isolated natural avalanches can occur. For those engaging in backcountry touring and off-piste activities, the conditions are treacherous.

Regions north of the northern Alpine ridge:

Moderate avalanche danger (level 2)

The avalanche prone locations are to be found on steep slopes of all aspects above approximately 1800 m. Careful route selection is important.

In all regions, but especially on the southern flank of the Swiss Alps, full- depth snow slides can occur on steep grassy slopes below approximately 2000 m.

Trend for Wednesday and Thursday

On Wednesday and Thursday the weather will be changeable with a moderate southwesterly wind. It will become increasingly sunny in the south. The avalanche danger will decrease, especially in the main danger areas.

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)

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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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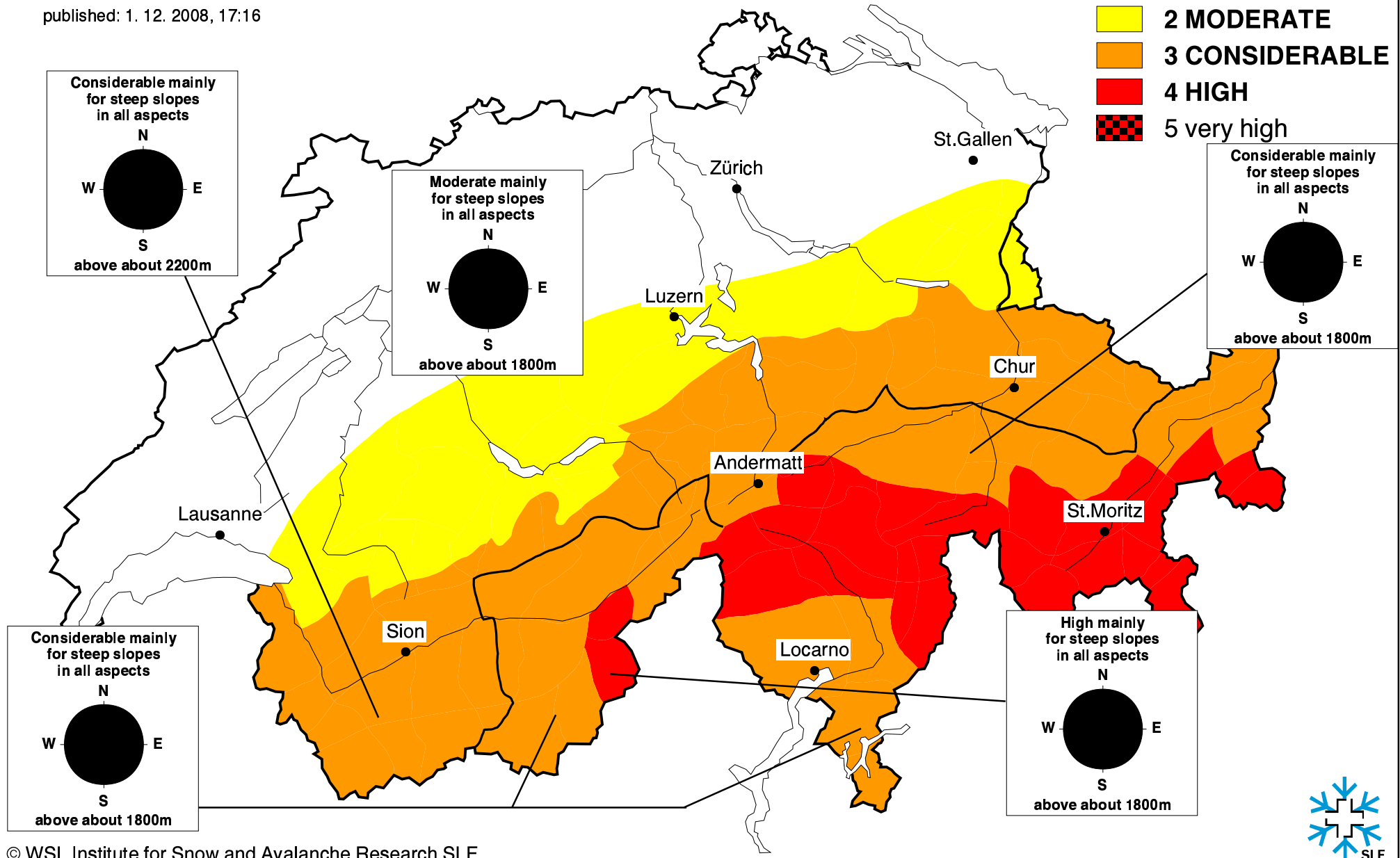
Avalanche danger forecast

for Tuesday, 2. December 2008

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Danger level

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








Avalanche danger forecast

for Tuesday, 2. December 2008

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Danger level

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

