

# National avalanche bulletin no. 101

for Friday, 13 February 2009

issue date 12.2.2009, 18:30 hours

## *A critical avalanche situation in outlying terrain away from secured ski runs*

### Current conditions

On Thursday it was overcast in northern regions and in the course of the day snowfall set in again. In southern regions it was generally sunny. During the day, there was an additional 20 to 40 cm of new snow from the Bernese Oberland over central Switzerland as far as the eastern sector of the northern flank of the Alps. The midday temperatures at 2000 m were minus 11 degrees in northern regions, minus 8 degrees in southern regions. Moderate northerly winds prevailed and slackened off somewhat in the course of the day. Towards evening, the winds regained in strength. New snowdrift accumulations formed in areas adjacent to ridge lines in particular.

Since Tuesday morning north of the Rhine-Rhone line and in the Prättigau, there has been 50 to 80 cm of new snow, locally even more. In southern Valais, in the Gotthard region and in the remaining parts of northern Grisons, there was 20 to 40 cm of snow, elsewhere less. The bonding of the new fallen snow and snowdrift gets stronger with increasing altitude, which in turns makes it more prone to triggering.

### Short-term development

On Friday it is expected to remain heavily overcast in northern regions and the snowfall will continue. By Friday evening in the Bernese Oberland and in the central and eastern sectors of the northern flank of the Alps, 20 to 30 cm of new snow is anticipated. Further to the west and south, 5 to 15 cm of snowfall is anticipated. The midday temperature at 2000 m will be minus 11 degrees. Strong northerly winds will prevail along the Main Alpine Ridge and south thereof, elsewhere they will be of moderate strength. Additional snowdrift accumulations are expected to form which can be easily triggered.

### Avalanche danger forecast for Friday

Northern flank of the Alps from Grindelwald as far as the Glarus Alps not including Prealps; in addition, northern Surselva and Flims region:

#### *High avalanche danger (Level 4)*

The avalanche prone locations are to be found on steep slopes in all aspects above approximately 2000 m. Highly critical conditions prevail in outlying terrain away from secured ski runs. Avalanches can be triggered with extreme ease, particularly in spots with snowdrift. Primarily small and medium sized natural avalanches can be expected. Exposed parts of transportation routes can be placed at risk in isolated cases.

Remaining regions of the northern flank of the Alps; Valais; remaining Grisons; Ticino:

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

In the remaining parts of the northern flank of the Alps and in the Prättigau, the avalanche prone locations are to be found on steep slopes in all aspects above approximately 1600 m. The new snow and snowdrift of recent days can be triggered by single persons. Small to medium sized natural avalanches are possible. A great deal of experience in the assessment of avalanche hazards is imperative.

In the Valais, in Ticino and in the remaining regions of Grisons, the avalanche prone locations are to be found on steep slopes in all aspects above approximately 1800 m. The major hazard in these regions stems from the snowdrift accumulations which have formed in the last few days. Single persons can trigger avalanches. Cautious route selection is essential.

### Trend for Saturday and Sunday

On the weekend it is expected to be wintery cold in northern regions, with only a bit of new snow. In southern regions, it will be predominantly sunny. The northerly winds will taper off somewhat. The avalanche danger will subside gradually. However, for backcountry skiers and freeriders, it will remain treacherous to begin with.

#### 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>

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

**Teletext:** Page 782 (SF DRS)

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

**Feedback information:**

Email: [lwp@slf.ch](mailto:lwp@slf.ch)






Free phone/fax: 0800 800 187 / 88

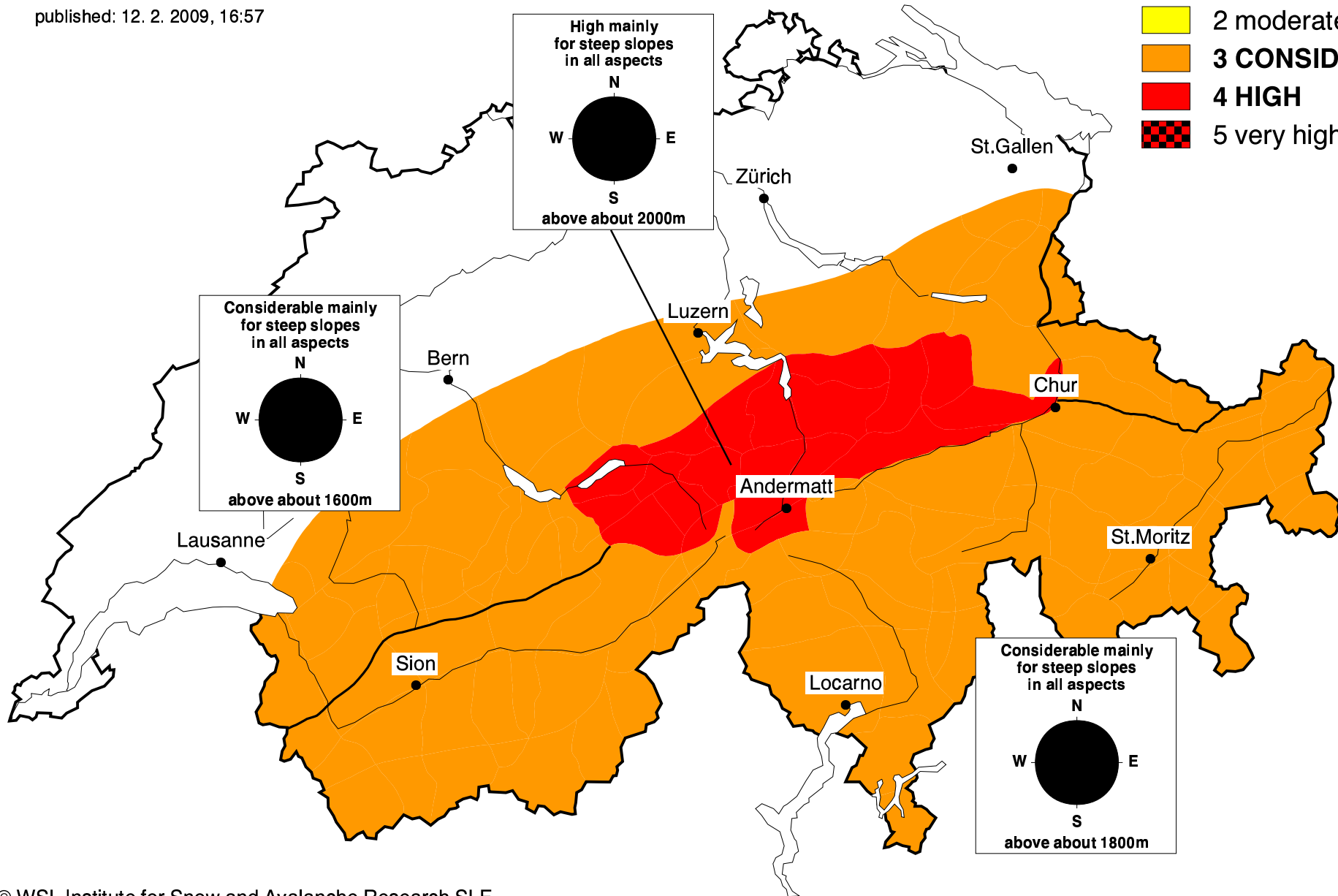
# Avalanche danger forecast

for Friday, 13. February 2009

published: 12. 2. 2009, 16:57

Danger level

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








# Avalanche danger forecast

for Friday, 13. February 2009

published: 13. 2. 2009, 07:59

Danger level

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

