

## National avalanche bulletin no. 148

for Wednesday, 1 April 2009

issue date 31.3.2009, 18:30 hours

### *Considerable and moderate avalanche danger increasing during the day*

#### Current conditions

On Tuesday it was mostly sunny in the Swiss Alps. On the northern flank of the Alps, however, there was low stratus cloud cover with an upper limit of approximately 1600 m. In the afternoon, cloud built up from the south. Midday temperatures at 2000 m were about plus 3 degrees. The wind was light to moderate from the northeast on the northern flank of the Alps, and from the southeast elsewhere.

As a general rule, the snowpack is moderately to well bonded. In particular in southern Valais and Lower Engadine, and generally in areas with shallow snow cover and close to the tree line, the snowpack still contains fairly deep weak layers in some places. Here, isolated avalanches can penetrate down to the ground and reach fairly large size.

#### Short-term development

On the southern flank of the Alps, Wednesday will be cloudy with bright intervals. In the southern Visp valleys and the southern Simplon region, 10 to 20 cm of snow will fall above 1800 m. On the rest of the southern flank of the Alps, only a few centimetres of snow will fall. North of the main Alpine ridge, the weather will be fairly sunny. Midday temperatures will be about plus 6 degrees in the north and plus 2 degrees in the south. The southeasterly wind will blow moderate to strong at high altitude.

#### Avalanche danger forecast for Wednesday

Southern Visp valleys and southern Simplon region:

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

The avalanche prone locations are to be found on southwest to north to east facing steep slopes above approximately 2400 m. Avalanches can be triggered by a single person. On Wednesday, the conditions will also give rise to fresh snow drift accumulations that are easily released. For those venturing off piste, experience in the assessment of avalanche danger is required.

Northern flank of the Alps; rest of Valais; Ticino; Grisons:

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

The avalanche prone locations are to be found on steep slopes above approximately 2000 m. On the main Alpine ridge from the northern Simplon region to Rheinwald and to the south, the avalanche prone locations are to be found in particular on south to north to east facing aspects. In the other relevant regions, they are to be found primarily on west to north to east facing aspects.

Avalanches can be triggered, especially by large additional loads. In addition, fresh snow drift accumulations must be evaluated with care and prudence. Careful route selection is required. In the high-altitude regions of the Alps, the danger level is higher.

In all regions, the danger of wet avalanches will increase to "moderate" (level 2) during the day. Below approximately 2400 m, some small and, in isolated cases, medium-sized wet avalanches are to be expected, in particular on sun-exposed steep slopes. Large natural avalanches cannot be entirely ruled out, including ones released at high altitude and on north facing slopes. Individual full-depth avalanches can be released at any time. This danger is indicated by gaps (glide cracks) in the snowpack. Those engaging in outdoor pursuits should not spend any more time than is essential in areas below a glide crack.

#### Trend for Thursday and Friday

In the south on both days, the weather will be changeable with bright intervals and showers. On Thursday, more snow could fall in the southern Visp valleys. The north will be quite sunny on Thursday. Friday will be quite sunny in the east, but changeable in the west. Mild, spring-like temperatures will prevail. The danger of dry avalanches will decrease slowly. The danger of wet snow avalanches will increase during each of the next two days.

##### 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)






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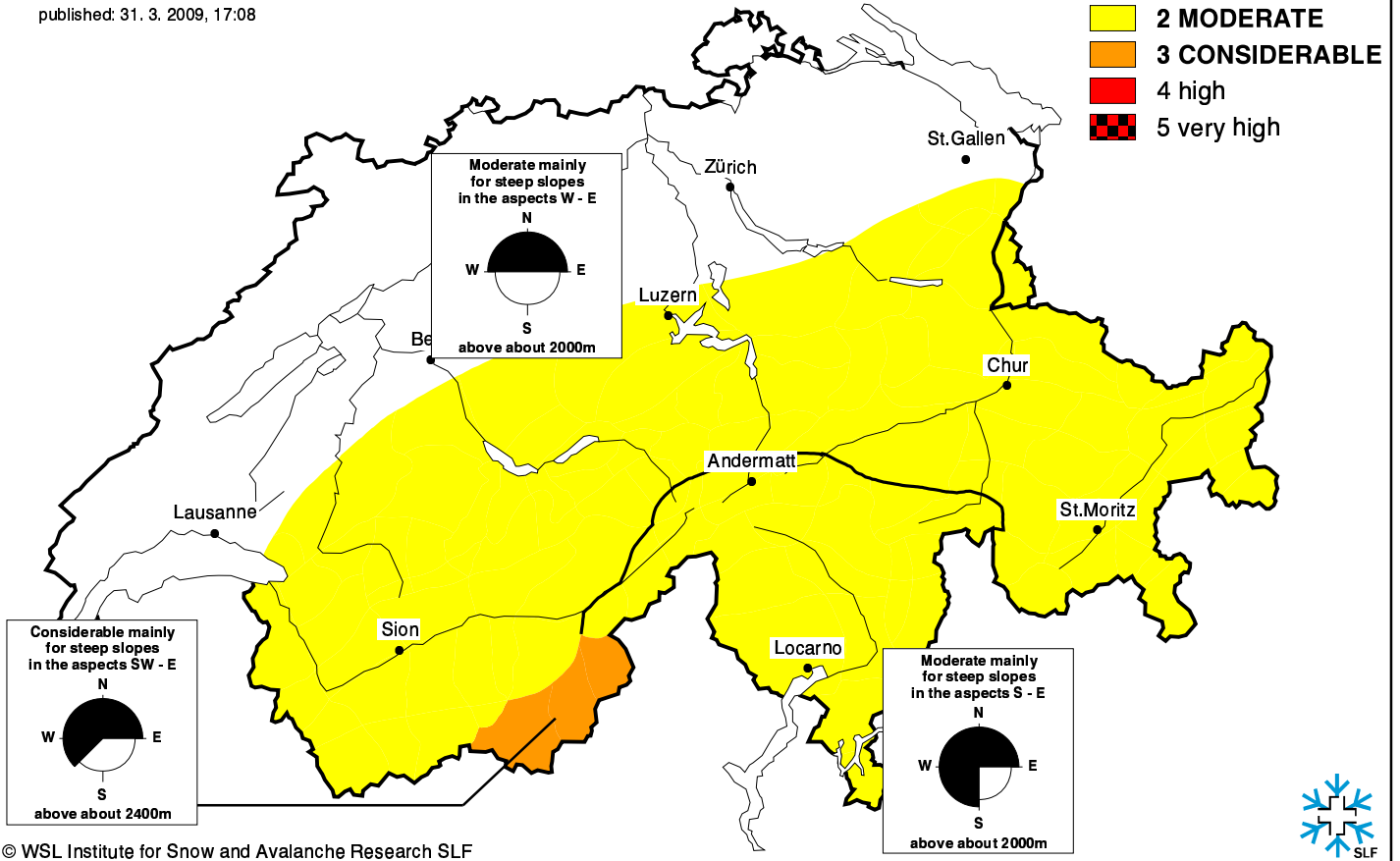
# Danger forecast for dry snow avalanches

for Wednesday, 1. April 2009

published: 31. 3. 2009, 17:08

Danger level

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








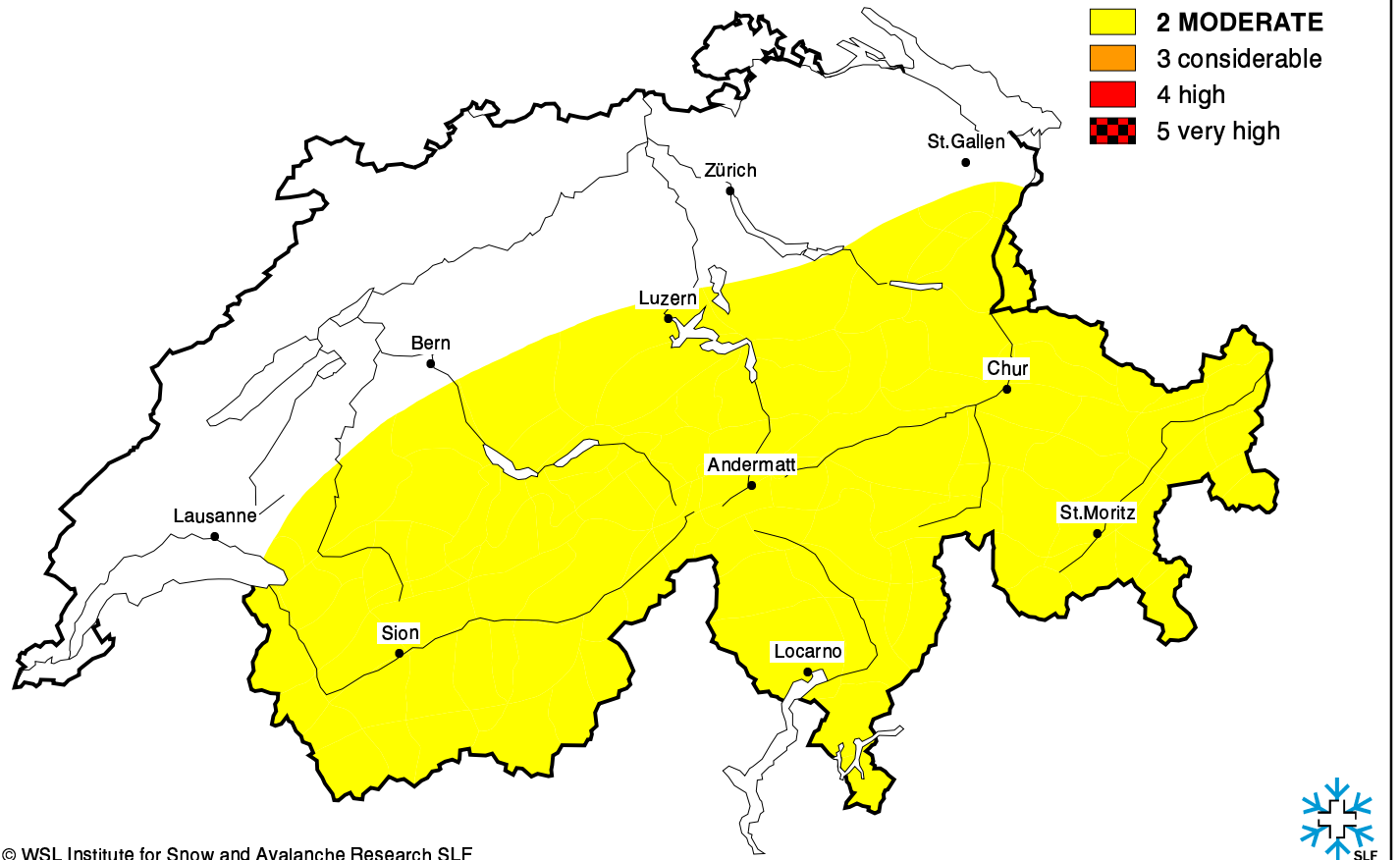
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# Danger of wet snow avalanches in the course of the day

for Wednesday, 1. April 2009

Danger level

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



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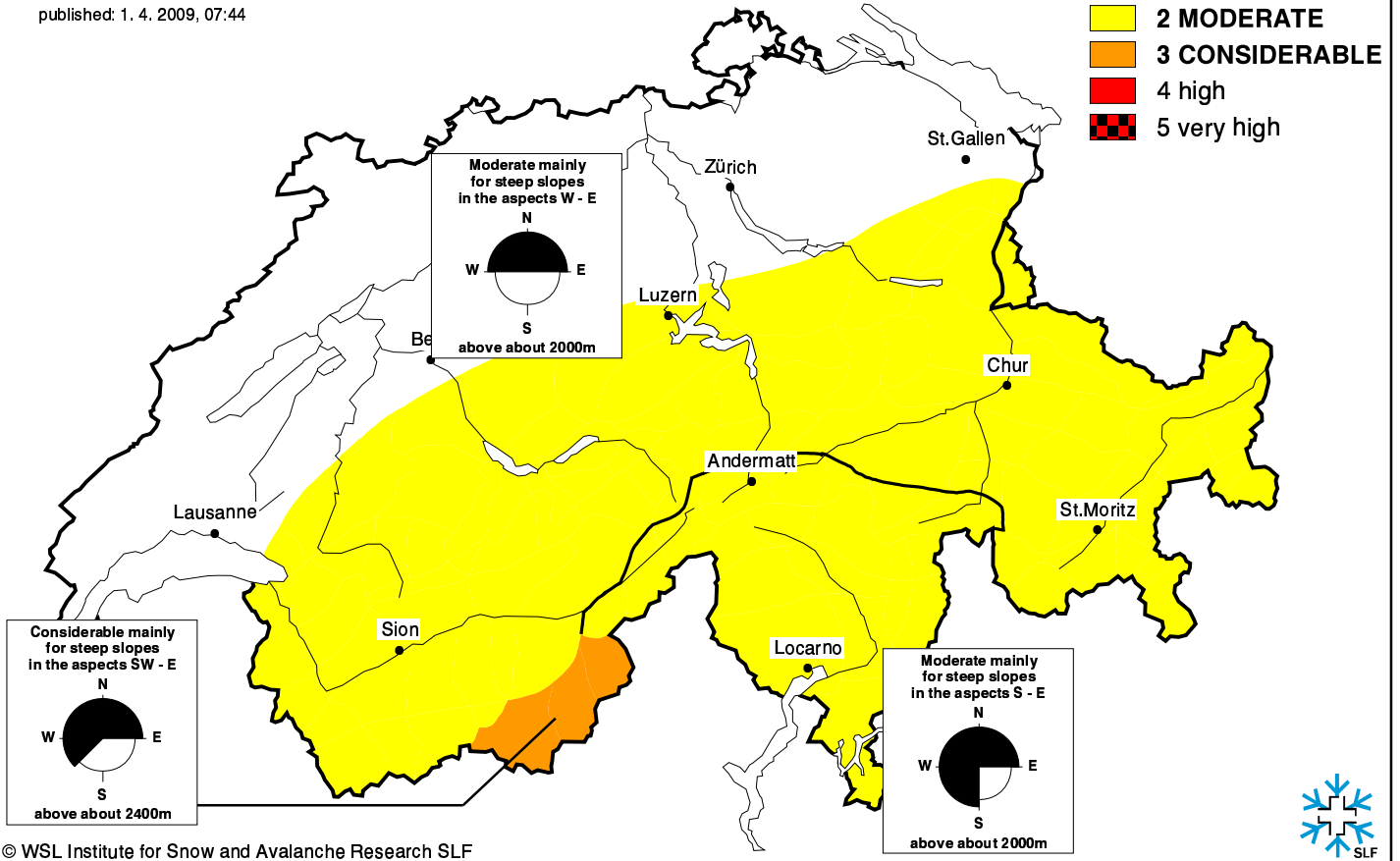
# Danger forecast for dry snow avalanches

for Wednesday, 1. April 2009

published: 1. 4. 2009, 07:44

Danger level

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



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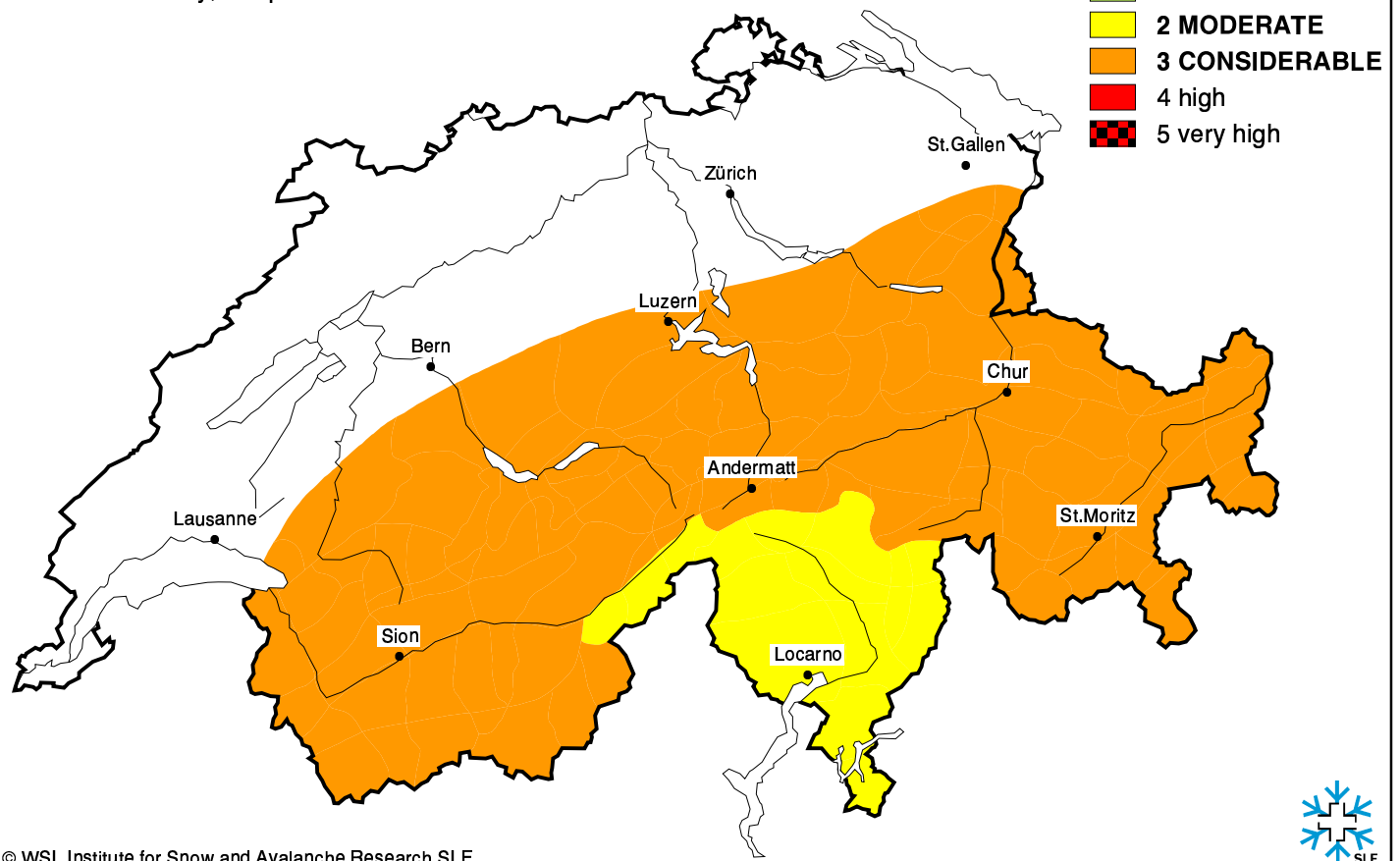


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