

National avalanche bulletin no. 166

for Sunday, 19 April 2009

issue date 18.4.2009, 18:30 hours

Increasingly favourable avalanche situation

Current conditions

On Saturday, weather conditions were variable. There were isolated, light snow showers. The midday temperature at 2000 m was minus 1 degree. A light wind from varying directions was blowing.

The snowline on north facing slopes lies at 1200 m widespread, in western regions at 1500 m, on south facing slopes at 1400 to 1600 m. The large amounts of snow which have fallen until Friday particularly in southern regions have settled favourably up to high altitudes and have consolidated increasingly well with the old snowpack.

Short-term development

On Saturday night, the skies will be predominantly overcast, primarily south of the northern flank of the Alps. The outgoing longwave radiation is expected to be rather weak in those regions. During the day on Sunday it will be variable, amidst sunshine and snow showers above approximately 2000 m. The midday temperature at 2000 m will be plus 2 degrees. Light to moderate easterly winds are expected to prevail.

The avalanche hazards are increasingly subject to a slight daytime warming cycle. Avalanche activity is escalating on steep, south facing slopes in the major areas of precipitation of southern regions in particular.

Avalanche danger forecast for Sunday

Main Alpine Ridge from the Simplon region into Avers:

Considerable avalanche danger (Level 3)

The avalanche prone locations are to be found on steep slopes, primarily in northwest to north to east expositions above approximately 2800 m. Backcountry skiers and freeriders can trigger small to medium sized avalanches. For skiing and freeriding tours, great experience in the assessment of avalanche hazards is imperative.

Trient; Champex; Main Alpine Ridge in Lower Valais; Upper Valais not including the regions on the Main Alpine Ridge from Simplon into Goms; central Grisons not including the regions on the Main Alpine Ridge; remaining regions of northern Ticino; central Ticino; lower Val Calanca and lower Val Moesa; Upper Engadine; Bergell and Puschlav:

Moderate avalanche danger (Level 2)

The avalanche prone locations are to be found on steep slopes in west to north to east expositions above approximately 2200 m. Older snowdrift accumulations must be assessed with particularly great caution. A prudent route selection is recommended. In high alpine regions, the likelihood of avalanche triggering is somewhat higher.

Northern flank of the Alps not including Gotthard region; remaining Lower Valais; northern Grisons; Lower Engadine; Münstertal:

Low avalanche danger (Level 1)

Isolated avalanche prone locations are to be found primarily in extremely steep terrain at high altitudes. Even small sized avalanches can cause people to fall.

In all regions wet slides as well as wet snow avalanches and full depth snowslides can be expected below about 2600 m over the course of the day in some areas.

Trend for Monday and Tuesday

On Monday and Tuesday the sun will shine by and large. Particularly during the afternoon, convective cloud will build up and there will be scattered snow showers. The hazards of dry avalanches will incrementally subside. The danger of wet snow avalanches is subject to a slight daytime warming cycle and will tend to increase.

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

Teletext: Page 782 (SF DRS)

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

Feedback information:

Email: lw@slf.ch

Free phone/fax: 0800 800 187 / 88

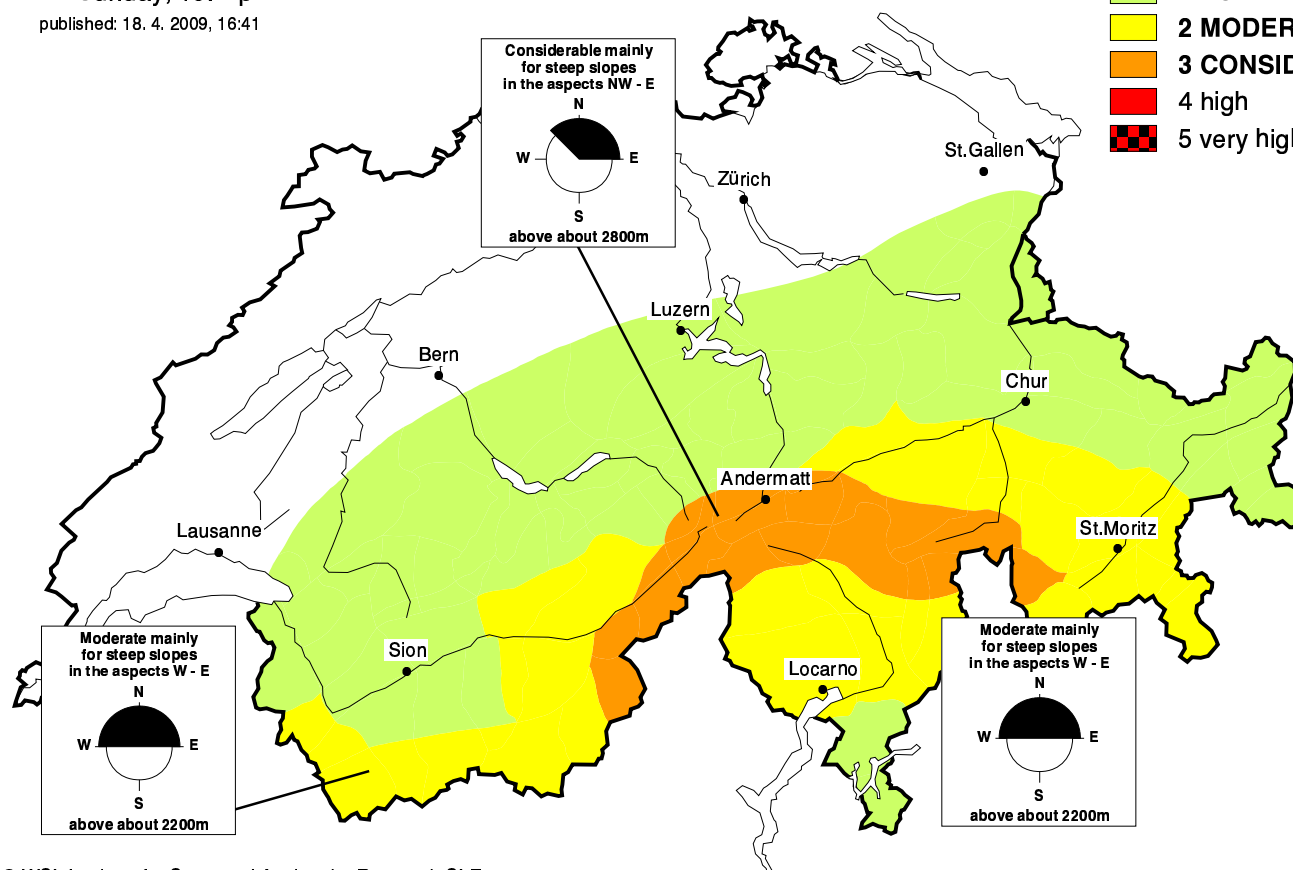
Danger forecast for dry snow avalanches

for Sunday, 19. April 2009

published: 18. 4. 2009, 16:41

Danger level

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



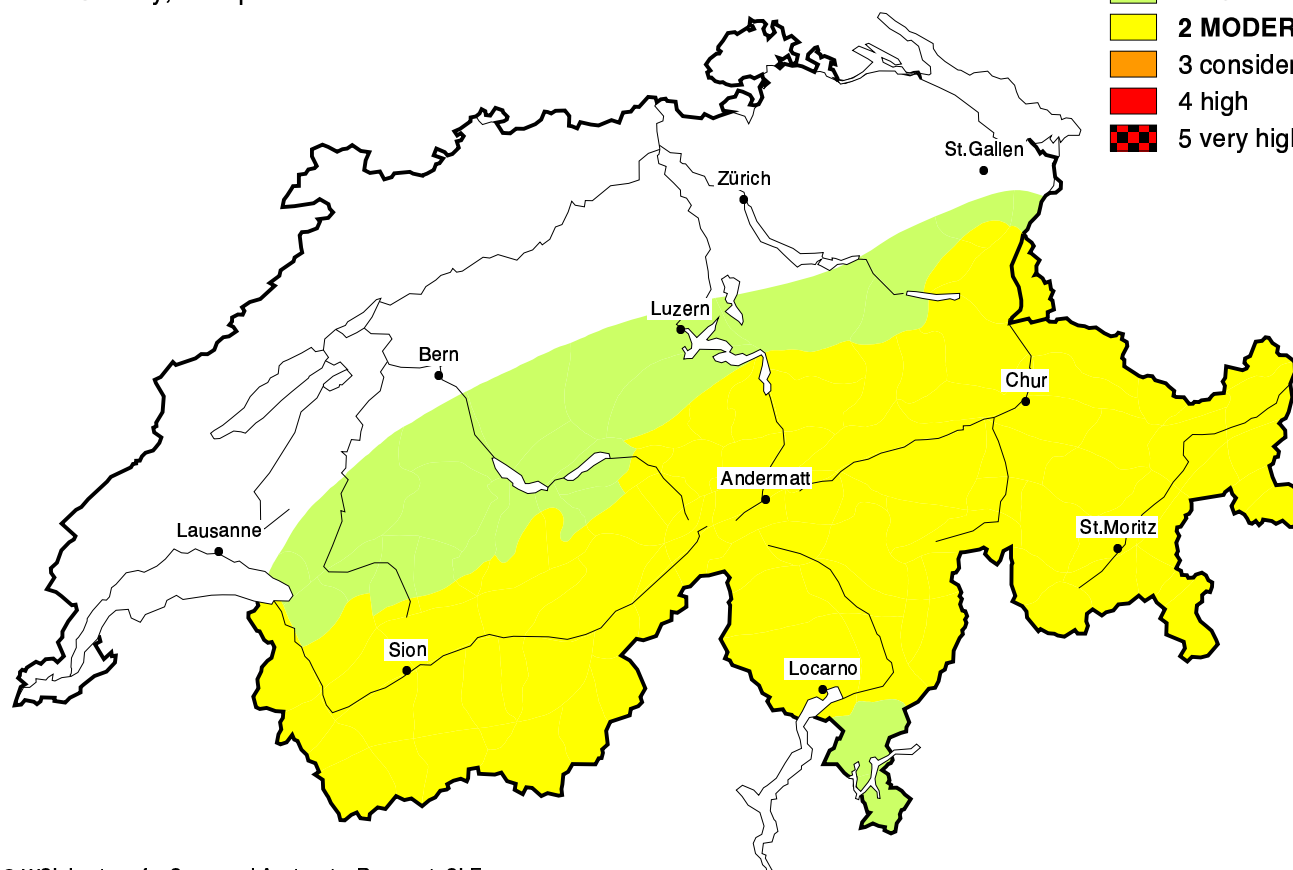
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Danger of wet snow avalanches in the course of the day

for Sunday, 19. April 2009

Danger level

- 1 LOW
- 2 MODERATE
- 3 considerable
- 4 high
- 5 very high



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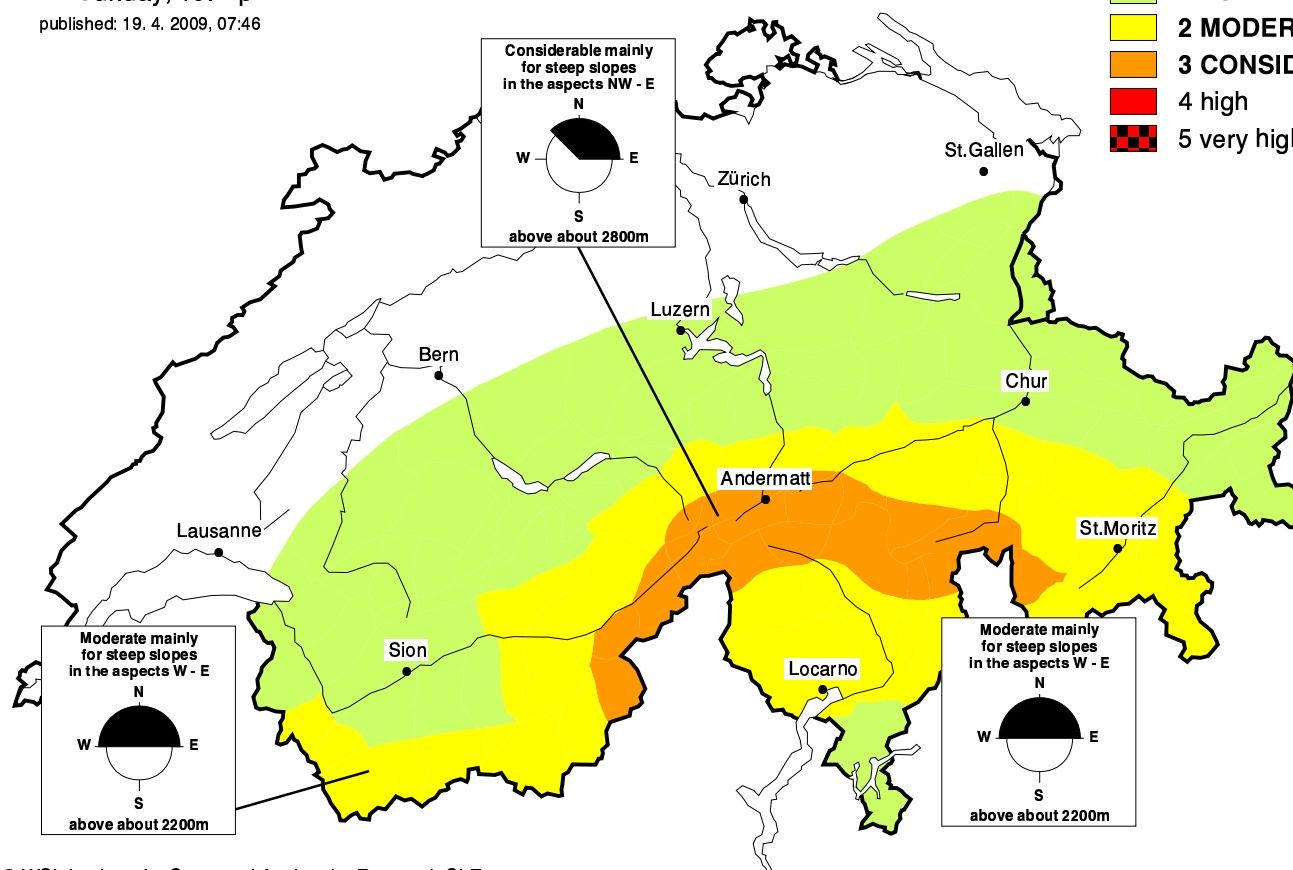
Danger forecast for dry snow avalanches

for Sunday, 19. April 2009

published: 19. 4. 2009, 07:46

Danger level

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



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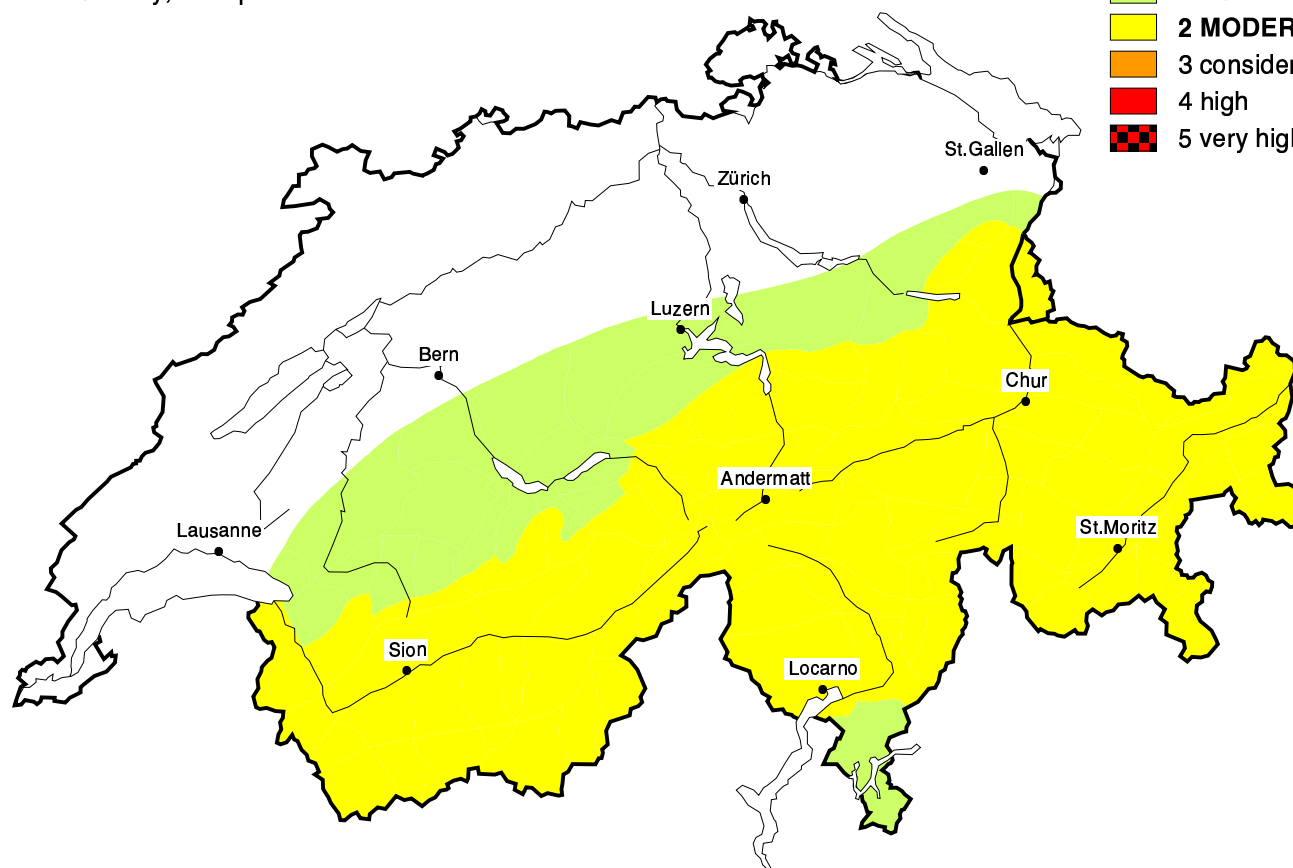


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