

## National avalanche bulletin no. 17

for Monday, 30 November 2009

issue date 29.11.2009, 18:30 hours

### *Heavy snowfall in southern and eastern regions, escalating avalanche danger*

#### Current conditions

On Sunday it was overcast in southern regions; above approximately 1200 m there was snowfall. By evening along the Main Alpine Ridge from the Simplon region into the Bergell and south thereof, there was 15 to 30 cm of snowfall. In northern regions there were foehn induced bright spells in some areas. The temperature at 2000 m on the southern flank of the Alps was minus 3 degrees and in northern regions plus 2 degrees. Strong to stormy southerly winds were blowing.

In general, there are still only small amounts of snow. The stormy southerly winds have caused fresh snowdrift accumulations to form, which have been deposited primarily in hollows in the terrain such as gullies and bowls.

#### Short-term development

On Monday it will be overcast and snowfall is anticipated. The winds will decrease significantly and by midday be of only light to moderate strength. During the afternoon, winds will shift to northerly and be light. Midday temperatures at 2000 m in western regions will be minus 5 degrees; in eastern and southern regions it will be minus 3 degrees. By Monday evening, the following amounts of snowfall are expected: Main Alpine Ridge from the Simplon region over the Gotthard region into the Upper Engadine and south thereof, 50 to 80 cm, locally as much as 100 cm; remaining Upper Valais, central and eastern parts of the northern flank of the Alps and remaining Grisons, 30 to 50 cm; Lower Valais and western part of the northern flank of the Alps, 15 to 30 cm.

#### Avalanche danger forecast for Monday

Main Alpine Ridge from the Monte Rosa region into the Gotthard region; Ticino; Grisons; Urner Alps and eastern part of northern flank of the Alps not including Prealps:

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

Along the Main Alpine Ridge from the Monte Rosa region into the Upper Engadine and south thereof, the avalanche prone locations are to be found on steep slopes in all expositions above approximately 2000 m. Avalanches can be triggered even by a single person. Small and medium sized natural avalanches can be expected. Large sized avalanches are possible in isolated cases. Since there is hardly any snow in the avalanche corridors, released avalanches have only short runout zones. On steep meadows and hillsides, unleashed avalanches can slide across the ground. High altitude, exposed transportation routes could be placed at risk. In the remaining regions of this danger level, the avalanche prone locations are to be found primarily on southwest to north to southeast facing wind loaded slopes above approximately 2200 m. The level "considerable" will be reached over the course of the day in those regions. Avalanches can be triggered even by a single person. Natural avalanches are possible in isolated cases.

Northern Prealps; remaining western and central parts of northern flank of the Alps; remaining Valais:

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

The avalanche prone locations are to be found primarily on wind loaded slopes in all expositions above approximately 2200 m. Freshly formed snowdrift accumulations can be triggered as avalanches even by a single person in some places. Cautious route selection is imperative.

#### Trend for Tuesday and Wednesday

On Tuesday, an additional 5 to 15 cm of snowfall is anticipated, accompanied by low temperatures. On Wednesday, it will be partly sunny and will again turn somewhat warmer. Winds will remain generally light. The avalanche danger is expected to gradually subside as of Wednesday.

##### 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  
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##### Regional avalanche bulletins (Fr. 0.50/MMS)

-- Central Switzerland  
-- Lower Valais / VD  
-- Upper Valais  
-- North and Central Grisons  
-- South Grisons  
-- Bernese Oberland  
-- Eastern Part of the Northern Slope of the Alps

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# Avalanche danger forecast

for Monday, 30. November 2009

published: 29. 11. 2009, 16:50

Danger level

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

