

## National avalanche bulletin no. 64

for Saturday, 16 January 2010

issue date 15.1.2010, 18:30 hours

### *Moderate avalanche danger*

#### Current conditions

On Friday it was partly sunny above the high fog, particularly in eastern regions. The midday temperatures at 2000 m were between minus 2 and minus 4 degrees. Light to moderate northerly winds were blowing. Primarily on the southern flank of the Alps, fresh snowdrift accumulations formed which are prone to triggering.

The snow layering varies greatly even within contained surface areas and is particularly unfavourable in places with little snow or a shallow snowpack. Through the low temperatures, the snow is continuing to transform into faceted crystals and coarse grained loosely packed snow. For that reason, avalanches which fracture in the old snowpack tend less and less frequently to attain large size and long reach. Avalanches in freshly formed snowdrift depend on the size of the particular snowdrift accumulation.

#### Short-term development

On Saturday morning it will be sunny. Over the course of the day, clouds will rapidly move in from the west. The midday temperatures at 2000 m will be plus 2 degrees in northern regions and minus 2 degrees in southern regions. Moderate westerly winds will be blowing. Especially in areas adjacent to ridge lines, new snowdrift accumulations are expected to form which will be relatively small sized, but prone to triggering.

#### Avalanche danger forecast for Saturday

Entire region of the Swiss Alps:

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

On the northern flank of the Alps not including Urseren as well as in northern Grisons, the avalanche prone locations are to be found primarily on wind loaded slopes in western to northern to southern exposition above approximately 1800 m. More recently formed snowdrift accumulations can be triggered even by a single backcountry skier or freerider, although they usually remain small sized. They should be evaluated with great care.

In the Valais, in Urseren, in central Grisons, in the Engadine and on the southern flank of the Alps, the avalanche prone locations are to be found on steep slopes in all expositions above approximately 2000 m. Freshly formed snowdrift accumulations can be released even by a single backcountry skier or freerider, but in general are relatively small sized. On the Main Alpine Ridge from the Simplon region into the Bergell, the snowdrift accumulations are larger and the avalanche prone locations are more frequent. In the Valais and in the inneralpine regions of Grisons, in addition, avalanches can be triggered from inside the old snowpack in isolated cases. Transition areas from shallow to deep snow in particular should be assessed with great caution.

In all regions on sun bathed slopes in particular, glide cracks are expected to appear in the snowpack. Immediately below them there is an increased hazard of full depth snowslides.

#### Trend for Sunday and Monday

On Saturday night and during the day on Sunday in northern regions, 10 to 30 cm of snowfall is anticipated. The wind will be blowing from westerly to northwesterly directions and will increase in velocity. On Monday it will be partly sunny. The avalanche danger is expected to increase on Sunday in western and northern regions in particular.

##### 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

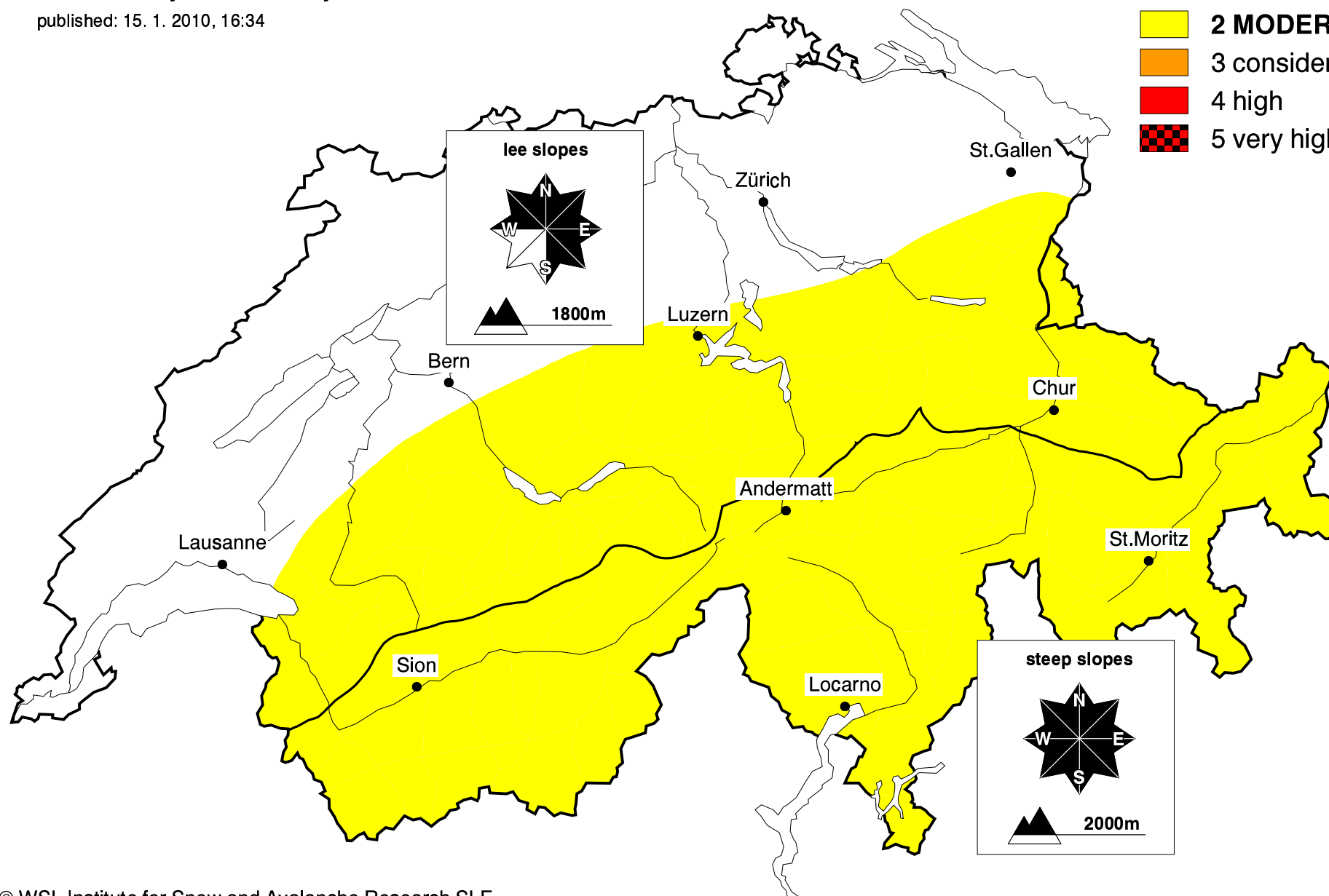
# Avalanche danger forecast

for Saturday, 16. January 2010

published: 15. 1. 2010, 16:34

Danger level

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








# Avalanche danger forecast

for Saturday, 16. January 2010

published: 16. 1. 2010, 07:41

Danger level

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

