



National avalanche bulletin no. 93

for Sunday, 14 February 2010

issue date 13.2.2010, 18:30 hours

Situation is treacherous - danger subsiding only gradually

Current conditions

On Saturday it was sunny. The midday temperature at 2000 m was minus 7 degrees. A light westerly to southerly wind was blowing, in some regions winds were at moderate velocity.

The snow layering is unfavourable widespread, except for in the central part of the southern flank of the Alps. It is most perilous in those places where older, better consolidated snowdrift is deposited on top of soft, faceted layers of snow. With increasing altitude, the snowpack becomes somewhat better consolidated overall due to the sustained influence of winds.

Short-term development

On Sunday it is expected to be quite sunny, in spite of some cloudbanks. The midday temperature at 2000 m will be minus 8 degrees. A light southwesterly wind will be blowing.

Avalanche danger forecast for Sunday

Northern flank of the Alps west of Grindelwald; eastern Lower Valais; Upper Valais not including upper Saastal and not including southern Simplon region; northern and central Grisons; Lower Engadine; Münstertal:

Considerable avalanche danger (Level 3)

The avalanche prone locations are to be found on steep slopes in all expositions, on the northern flank of the Alps from Grindelwald westwards above approximately 1800 m, elsewhere above approximately 2000 m. In some places avalanches can be triggered down to more deeply embedded layers of the snowpack even by a single backcountry skier or freerider. The most treacherous spots are wherever older snowdrift accumulations have been deposited on top of poorly consolidated old snow. These places are usually covered and concealed by fresh fallen snow and thus, nearly impossible to recognize. Whumpfung sounds are warning indicators of the hazard.

The avalanche situation is treacherous. Extensive experience in spotting and evaluating avalanche perils is important for backcountry skiers and freeriders.

Northern flank of the Alps east of Grindelwald; western Lower Valais; upper Saastal; southern Simplon region; Ticino; Upper Engadine; southern valleys of Grisons not including Münstertal:

Moderate avalanche danger (Level 2)

The avalanche prone locations are to be found on steep slopes in all expositions. On the northern flank of the Alps from Grindelwald eastwards, the danger zones are found above approximately 1600 m, elsewhere above approximately 2000 m. In isolated cases, avalanches can be triggered down to more deeply embedded layers of the snowpack, particularly in transition areas from shallow to deep snow. The lowermost layers of the snowpack are more stable in the central part of the southern flank of the Alps; there, the major danger stems from older snowdrift accumulations.

Trend for Monday and Tuesday

On Monday it will be predominantly sunny. Over the course of the day in southern regions, clouds will move in. On Tuesday it will be generally sunny in northern regions, accompanied by light foehn winds; temperatures will gradually rise. In southern regions it will be heavily overcast and a bit of snowfall down to lower altitudes is anticipated. The avalanche danger is not expected to change significantly.

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)

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Email: lw@slf.ch






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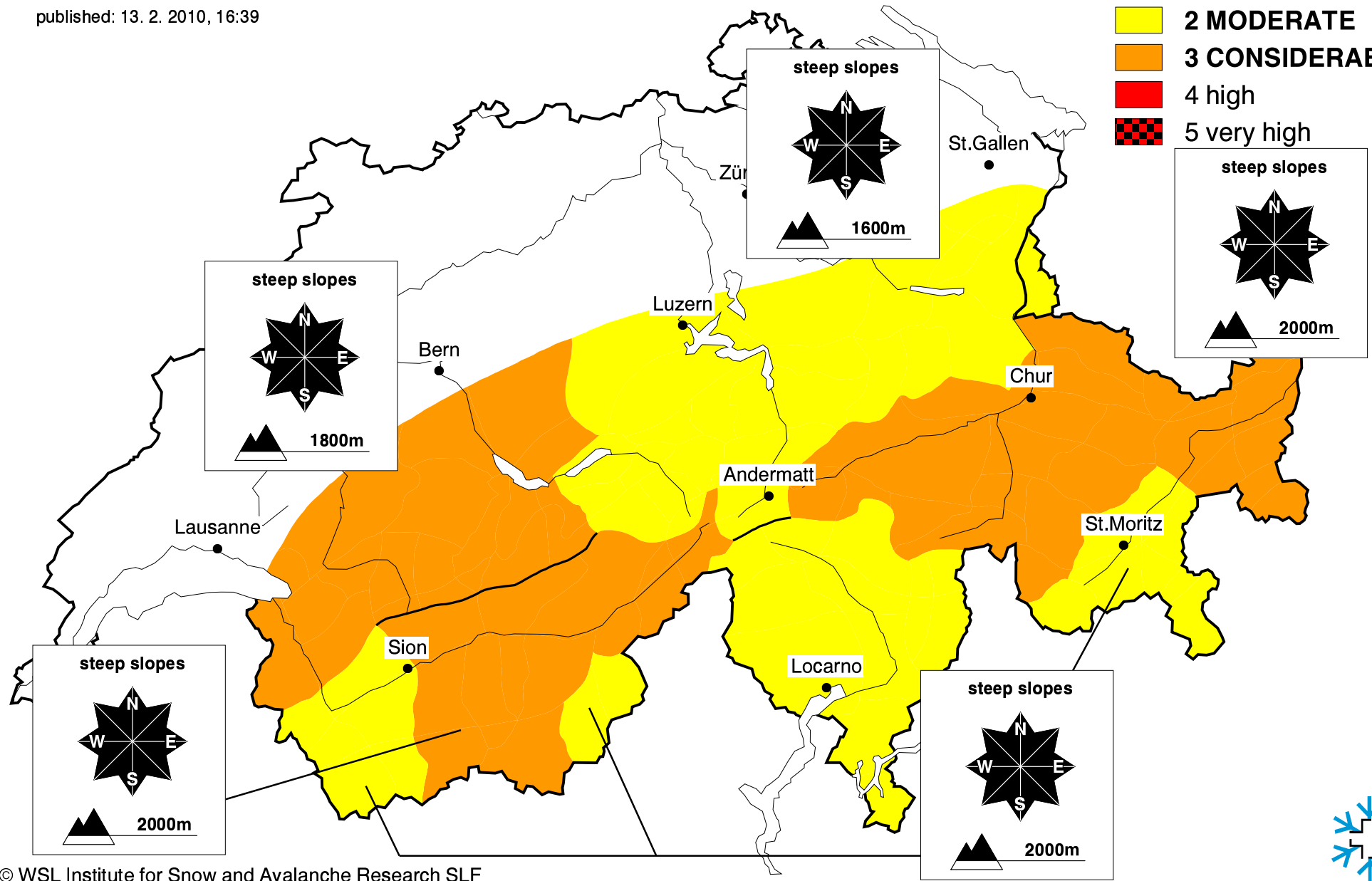
Avalanche danger forecast

for Sunday, 14. February 2010

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Danger level

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








Avalanche danger forecast

for Sunday, 14. February 2010

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Danger level

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

