

# National avalanche bulletin no. 106

for Saturday, 27 February 2010

issue date 26.2.2010, 18:30 hours

## *Critical avalanche situation widespread in outlying terrain away from secured ski runs*

### Current conditions

On Friday it was heavily overcast in most regions and in western and northern regions there was snowfall. Between Thursday and Friday afternoon above approximately 2200 m there were the following amounts of snowfall: Lower Valais, Vaud and Fribourg Alps as well as the western Bernese Alps, 20 to 40 cm; in the furthestmost western regions, as much as 50 cm; eastern Bernese Alps, central part of the northern flank of the Alps, Upper Valais, Ticino and Grisons, 10 to 20 cm; eastern part of the northern flank of the Alps, maximum 10 cm. The midday temperatures at 2000 m were between minus 4 degrees in northern regions and minus 2 degrees in southern regions. The very gusty winds, from westerly directions, were moderate to strong in northern and western regions, and of light to moderate velocity in eastern and southern regions.

Above all else in western regions, fresh snowdrift accumulations have formed which are quite deep in places. In addition, embedded well inside the snowpack are loosely packed layers of old snow which are prone to triggering, particularly below 2400 to 2700 m and in terrain with a shallow snowpack. At intermediate altitudes the snowpack has been made thoroughly wet by the rainfall, especially so in the western regions.

### Short-term development

On Saturday it will be predominantly sunny to begin with, accompanied by high altitude clouds. Over the course of the day, dense cloudbanks will move in from the west and towards evening precipitation is expected to set in. The midday temperature at 2000 m will be minus 1 degree. During the night, the wind will shift to northwesterly and prevail intermittently at storm strength. On Saturday, the wind will shift to southwesterly and slacken off to moderate, although in high alpine regions it will remain strong.

Through the solar radiation and the daytime warming cycle, the likelihood of avalanches triggering will increase somewhat over the course of the day.

### Avalanche danger forecast for Saturday

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

*Considerable avalanche danger (Level 3)*

In the Vaud and Fribourg Alps, in the western Bernese Oberland, in western Lower Valais and in northern Valais not including Goms, the avalanche prone locations are to be found on steep slopes in all expositions above approximately 1800 m. Avalanches can easily be triggered and attain medium size. In isolated cases, naturally triggered avalanches are possible.

On the remaining northern flank of the Alps, in northern Ticino as well as in Val Calanca and in Val Moesa, the avalanche prone locations are to be found primarily on wind loaded slopes in all expositions above approximately 1800 m.

In the remaining Valais and in Grisons not including Val Calanca and not including Val Moesa, the avalanche prone locations are to be found on steep slopes in all expositions above approximately 2000 m.

In all regions of this danger level, avalanches can easily be triggered by a single backcountry skier or freerider. Particularly in the inneralpine regions of the Valais and Grisons, avalanches can also fracture in the deeper layers of the old snowpack.

Extensive experience in spotting and evaluating avalanche hazards, together with great restraint, are necessary in outlying terrain away from secured ski runs.

Central Ticino; Sotto Ceneri:

*Moderate avalanche danger (Level 2)*

The avalanche prone locations are to be found on steep slopes in all expositions above approximately 1800 m. Freshly formed snowdrift accumulations can be easily triggered in some areas. They should be avoided whenever possible. A cautious route selection is imperative.

In all regions, below about 2000 m, particularly on very steep hillsides and grass covered slopes, wet snow avalanches and full depth snowslides are possible. They can attain medium size in some areas.

### Trend for Sunday and Monday

**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>

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**Feedback information:**

Email: [lwp@slf.ch](mailto:lwp@slf.ch)

Free phone/fax: 0800 800 187 / 88



On Sunday in western and southern regions above 2000 m, some snowfall is anticipated. In eastern regions there will be bright intervals accompanied by foehn wind. The southerly wind will be strong to stormy. On Monday it will be variably cloudy. The avalanche danger may increase somewhat in southern regions on Sunday and is expected to subside on Monday.

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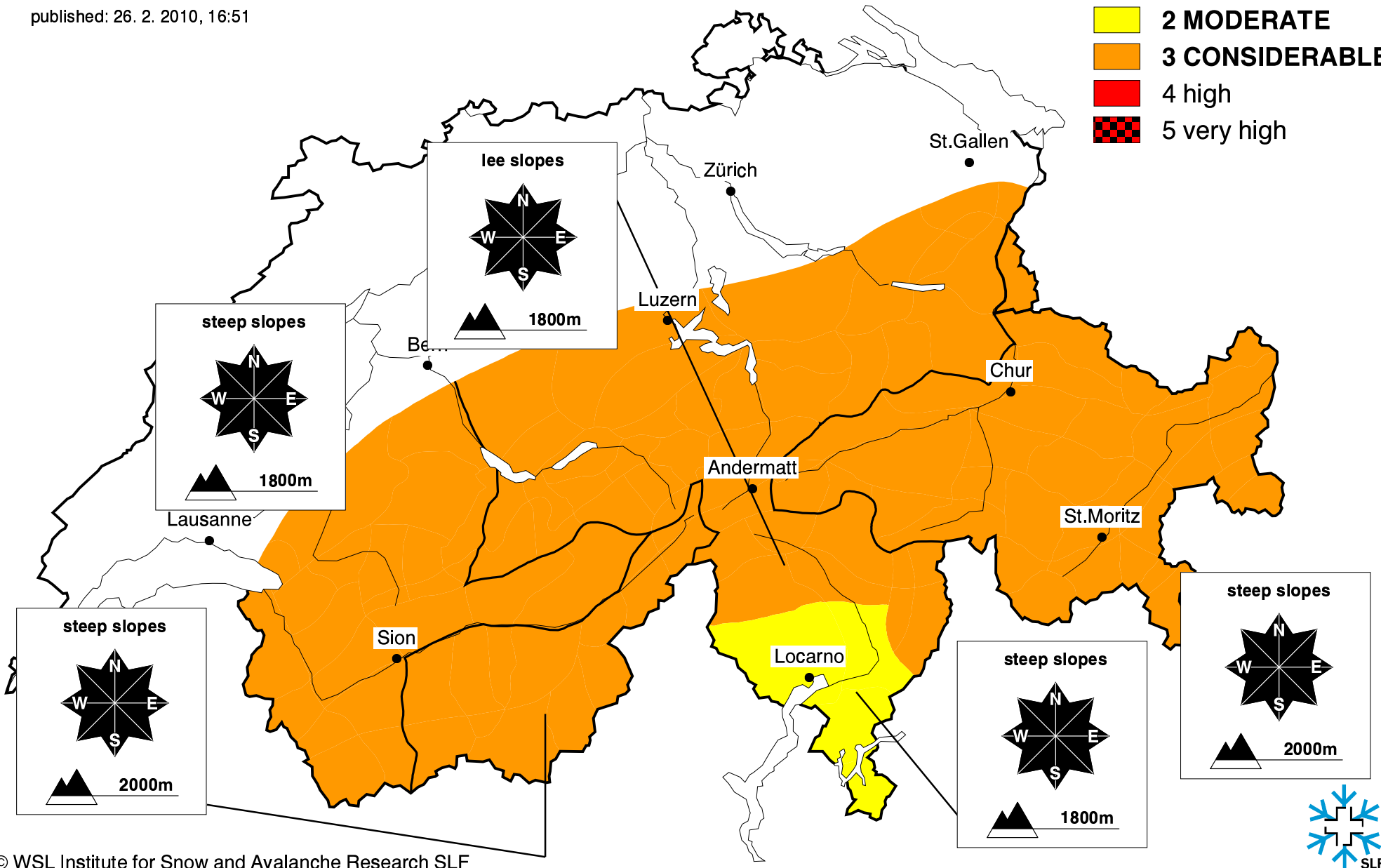
# Avalanche danger forecast

for Saturday, 27. February 2010

published: 26. 2. 2010, 16:51

Danger level

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








# Avalanche danger forecast

for Saturday, 27. February 2010

published: 27. 2. 2010, 07:43

Danger level

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

