

National avalanche bulletin no. 110

for Wednesday, 3 March 2010

issue date 2.3.2010, 18:30 hours

Considerable avalanche danger in some regions

Current conditions

Tuesday was sunny in the south. Bright spells occurred in Grisons in the morning and in Valais in the afternoon. A few centimetres of snow fell on the northern flank of the Alps and in Lower Valais. Midday temperatures at 2000 m were about minus 5 degrees in the north and minus 2 degrees in the south. The wind was moderate from the west. The weekend's very strong foehn wind has transported snow from peaks and ridges and deposited it mostly in areas that are some distance from ridge lines. In some places, these older snow drift accumulations are lying on a faceted and weakly bonded old snowpack. These conditions are especially prevalent in the inneralpine regions and at altitudes between the tree line and approximately 2500 m. On the northern flank of the Alps, the snow drift accumulations are mostly deep and very well bonded, so that they can no longer be released easily. At altitudes below 2000 m the snowpack is moist all the way through, in the western regions in particular.

Short-term development

Wednesday will be mostly sunny at first. Cloud will then build up quickly from the southwest. Midday temperatures at 2000 m will be about plus 2 degrees in the north and minus 3 degrees in the south. The wind will be light to moderate from the southeast.

Avalanche danger forecast for Wednesday

Northern Alpine ridge from Chablais to the Mönch; Valais; northern Ticino; Grisons excluding the regions north of the Anterior Rhine, Val Calanca and Val Moesa:

Considerable avalanche danger (level 3)

In northern Ticino, the avalanche prone locations are to be found, in particular, on wind-loaded slopes of all aspects above approximately 2000 m. Fresh and older, near-surface snow drift accumulations, in particular, can be released as avalanches by a single person.

In the remaining regions subject to this danger level, the avalanche prone locations are to be found, in particular, on west to north to southeast facing steep slopes above approximately 2000 m. Avalanches can be released by a single person. In the inneralpine regions of Valais and Grisons in particular, avalanches can also release deeper layers of the old snowpack and thus reach medium size.

For those engaging in backcountry touring and off-piste activities, experience in the assessment of avalanche danger is important.

Rest of the western part of the northern flank of the Alps; central and eastern parts of the northern flank of the Alps; northern Tavetsch; northern Surselva; Flims-Untervaz; central and southern Ticino; Val Calanca; Val Moesa:

Moderate avalanche danger (level 2)

Avalanche prone locations are to be found, in particular, on west to north to southeast facing wind-loaded slopes above approximately 1800 m. Older snow drift accumulations can be released, in particular at transitions from a shallow to a deep snowpack. Fresh snow drift accumulations can be released easily, but are generally small. Especially in the northern regions, isolated fractures can occur in deep layers of the snowpack. Careful route selection is important.

On the northern flank of the Alps and in Valais and Grisons in particular, full- depth and isolated wet snow avalanches are possible below approximately 2200 m.

Trend for Thursday and Friday

On Thursday it will be overcast, and a little snow will fall. On Friday it will be generally sunny and become cooler again. The avalanche danger will decrease slowly.

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)

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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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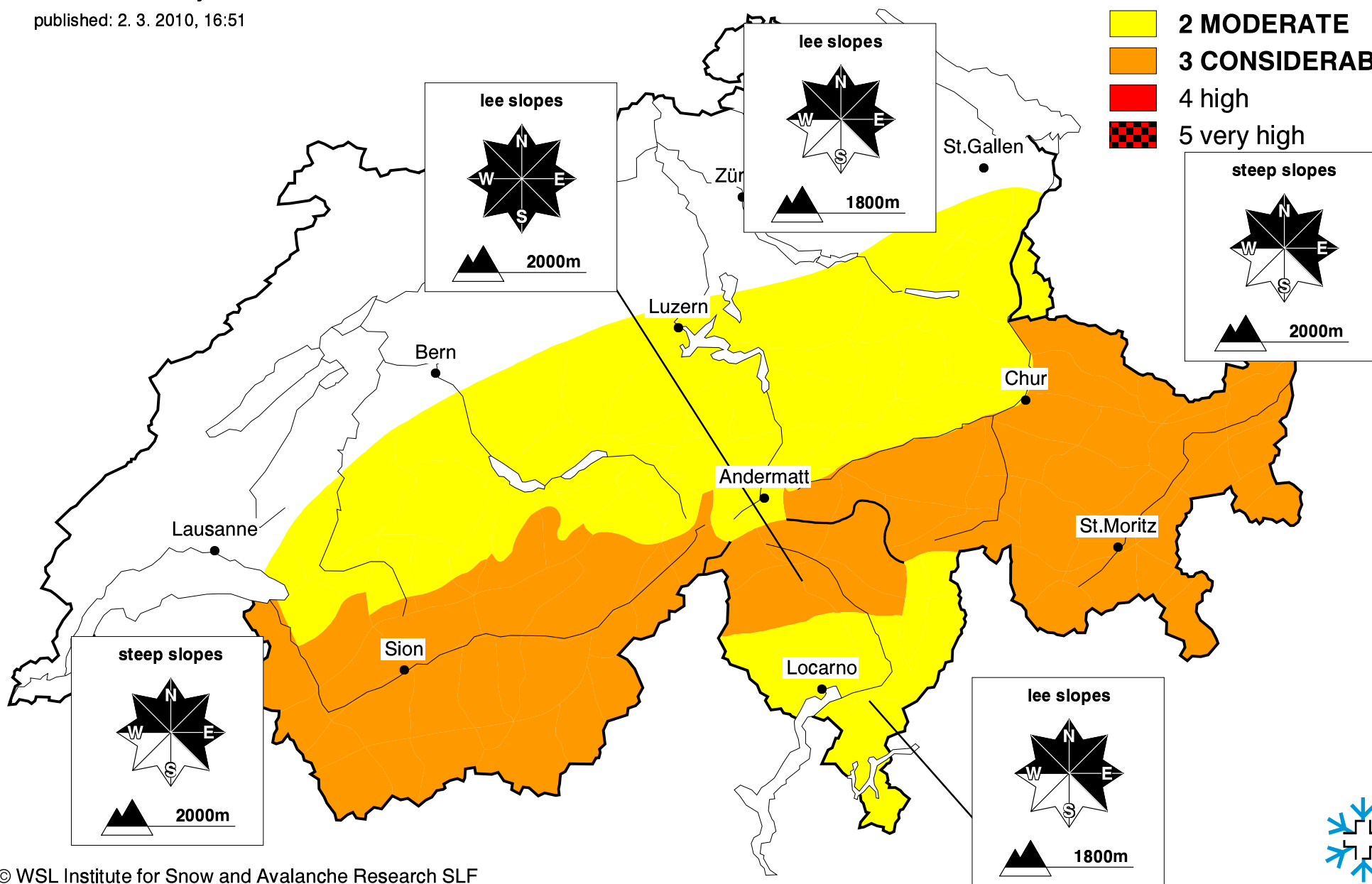
Avalanche danger forecast

for Wednesday, 3. March 2010

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Danger level

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








Avalanche danger forecast

for Wednesday, 3. March 2010

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Danger level

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

