

# National avalanche bulletin no. 120

for Saturday, 13 March 2010

issue date 12.3.2010, 18:30 hours

## *Moderate avalanche danger - unfavourable snow layering in some regions*

### Current conditions

On Friday it was predominantly sunny. The midday temperatures at 2000 m were minus 7 degrees in northern regions and minus 5 degrees in southern regions. A light to moderate northeasterly wind was blowing. The snowpack has a highly varied structure even across small surface areas. Snowdrift accumulations are evident widespread in the uppermost layers of the snowpack. They are often covered and concealed by small amounts of loosely packed, fresh fallen snow. This is especially the case in the inneralpine regions and in some sectors of the central and western parts of the northern flank of the Alps. Fractures in the old snowpack now occur less frequently, yet are still possible nonetheless. The snow layering in the eastern part of the northern flank of the Alps, on the southern flank of the Alps and on heavily frequented routes is somewhat more favourable. On steep, south facing slopes, the uppermost layers of the snowpack are consolidating apace.

### Short-term development

On Saturday morning it will be sunny. During the afternoon, clouds will move in from the northeast. The midday temperatures at 2000 m will be minus 8 degrees in northern regions and minus 4 degrees in southern regions. A light to moderate northerly wind will be blowing. Towards evening, the wind will increase in velocity.

### Avalanche danger forecast for Saturday

Simplon region and Binntal:

*Considerable avalanche danger (Level 3)*

The avalanche prone locations are to be found primarily on wind loaded slopes in all expositions above approximately 2000 m. Snowdrift accumulations can be released as avalanches even by a single backcountry skier or freerider. Backcountry tours require extensive experience in spotting and evaluating avalanche hazards and necessitate a cautious route selection.

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

*Moderate avalanche danger (Level 2)*

In the northern Prealps, the avalanche prone locations are to be found primarily on wind loaded slopes in southwestern to northern to southeastern exposition above approximately 1600 m. On the northern flank of the Alps not including the Prealps, in the Valais not including the Simplon region and not including Binntal, additionally in northern and central Grisons and in the Upper Engadine, the avalanche prone locations are to be found primarily on steep slopes in southwestern to northern to southeastern exposition above approximately 1800 m. Snowdrift accumulations can be triggered by large additional loading in particular.

In the central and eastern parts of the southern flank of the Alps and in the Lower Engadine, the avalanche prone locations are to be found on steep slopes in all expositions above approximately 1800 m. New fallen snow and snowdrift are poorly bonded with the old snowpack in some places.

Apart from that, in all regions of this danger level avalanches can fracture in the old snowpack in isolated cases, especially in transition areas from shallow to deep snow and in general at altitudes between 2000 and 3000 m. The snow situation, which is highly varied even over small surface areas, makes a cautious route selection, as well as measures to protect and preserve the snowpack, imperative.

### Trend for Sunday and Monday

On Sunday it will be sunny to begin with. Over the course of the day, clouds will move in from the north and it will start to snow lightly in northern regions. On Monday, snowfall is anticipated in northern regions. In southern regions it will remain predominantly sunny on Sunday and Monday. The avalanche danger is expected to increase in northern regions on 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](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

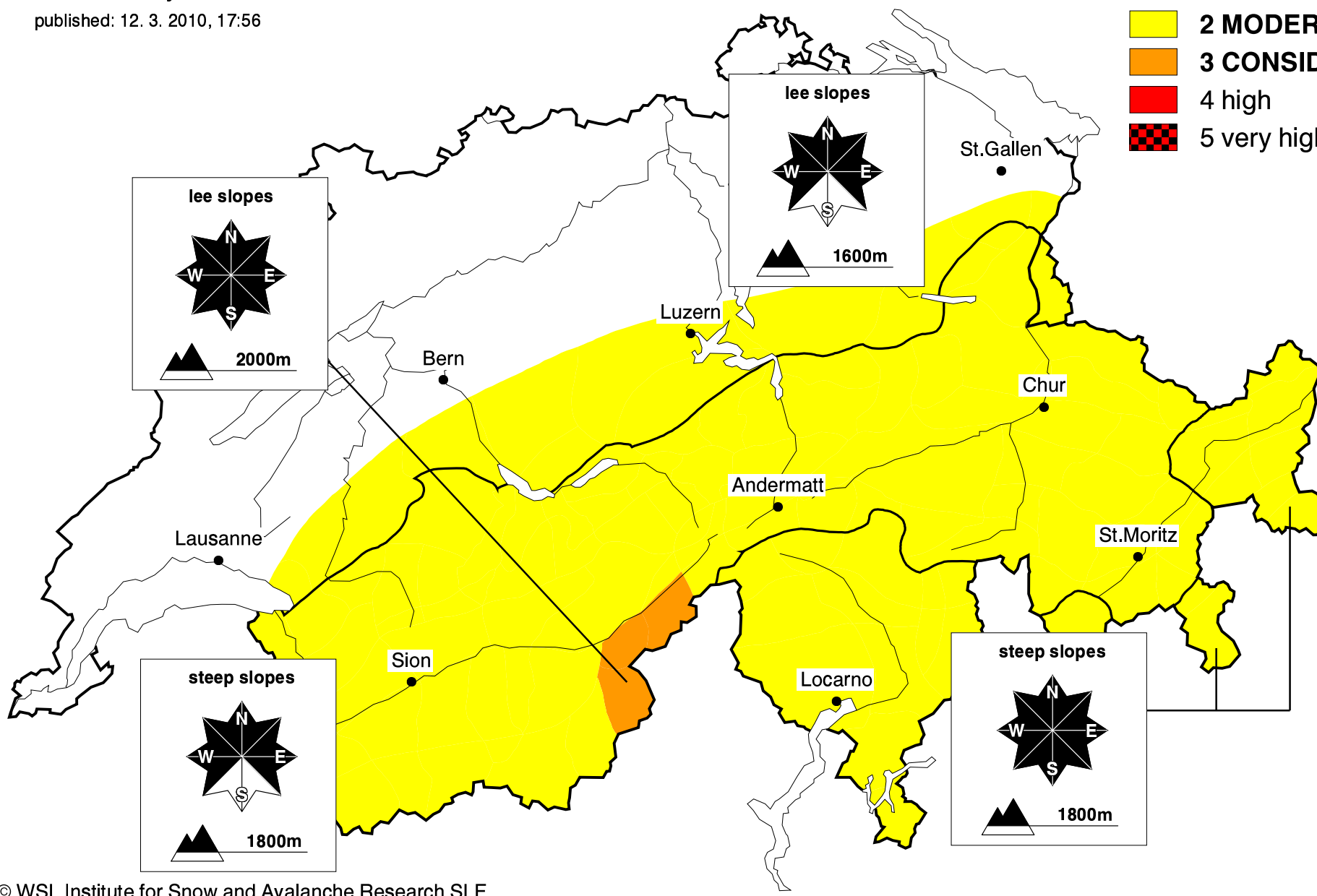
# Avalanche danger forecast

for Saturday, 13. March 2010

published: 12. 3. 2010, 17:56

Danger level

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








# Avalanche danger forecast

for Saturday, 13. March 2010

published: 13. 3. 2010, 07:41

Danger level

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

