

National avalanche bulletin no. 149

for Sunday, 11 April 2010

issue date 10.4.2010, 18:30 hours

A favourable avalanche situation in most regions

Current conditions

On Friday night, the skies were predominantly clear. During the day on Saturday in northern and eastern regions, it turned increasingly overcast, elsewhere it was quite sunny. The midday temperatures at 2000 m were plus 3 degrees in western regions, zero degrees in eastern regions and plus 5 degrees in southern regions. A light to moderate velocity northerly wind was blowing.

The snow surfaces vary greatly, depending on exposition. On steep, north facing slopes there is still powder snow in many places above approximately 2200 m. On steep south facing slopes, there is a melt freeze crust capable of bearing loads to be found increasingly frequently below about 2800 m, which however softens over the course of the day. On east and west facing slopes, the crusts are often brittle. Particularly on north facing slopes of the inneralpine regions, the snow layering between 2200 m and 3000 m is fragile in places.

Short-term development

On Sunday morning there will be periods of sunshine. During the afternoon, clouds will build up more and more. In showers above approximately 1000 m from region to region, a bit of snowfall is possible. The midday temperature at 2000 m will be minus 5 degrees. Generally light winds will be blowing; in northern regions there will be a moderate velocity bise wind. On Saturday night, there will be clear skies in some regions. Steep, south facing slopes are expected, amidst low temperatures, to freeze during the night and be capable of bearing loads widespread in the morning.

Avalanche danger forecast for Sunday

Valais; Gotthard region; Grisons; northern Ticino:

Moderate avalanche danger (Level 2)

In Upper Valais not including the southern Simplon region, in addition in the Grimsel, in Urseren and in Grisons not including its southern valleys, the avalanche prone locations are to be found primarily on steep slopes in western to northern to eastern exposition above approximately 2200 m. Avalanches can be triggered especially through large additional loading. Particularly in the inneralpine regions, they can fracture in isolated cases deep down in the old snowpack and thereby attain medium size. Several such avalanches over the last few days in Grisons confirm this danger.

In Lower Valais and on the southern flank of the Alps not including central Ticino and Sotto Ceneri, the avalanche prone locations are to be found primarily on steep slopes in western to northern to eastern expositions above approximately 2400 m. The uppermost layers of the snowpack more than anything else can be triggered as avalanches through large additional loading in particular.

For all regions in the Swiss Alps, a cautious route selection, as well as maintaining distances between persons and one-at-a-time descents are recommended on steep north facing slopes in particular.

Northern flank of the Alps not including Gotthard region; central Ticino; Sotto Ceneri:

Low avalanche danger (Level 1)

Isolated avalanche prone locations are to be found primarily in extremely steep terrain in northern exposition.

Trend for Monday and Tuesday

On Monday morning there will still be some periods of sunshine. During the afternoon it will become increasingly cloudy amidst showers. On Tuesday it will be predominantly overcast, accompanied by occasional showers. It is expected to remain unseasonably cool. The avalanche danger will continue to decrease.

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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Phone: 187 (Fr. 0.50/call and min)

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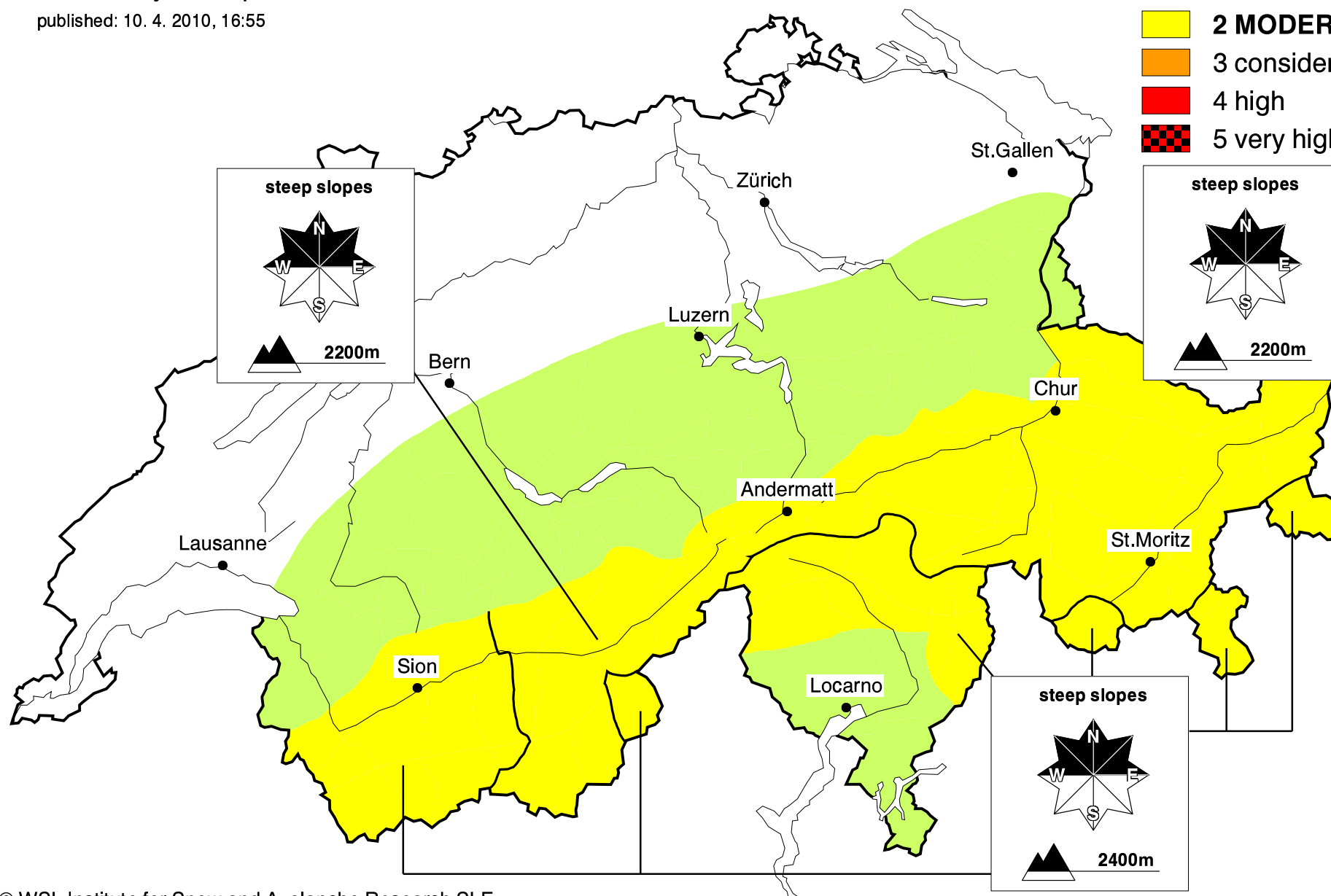
Avalanche danger forecast

for Sunday, 11. April 2010

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Danger level

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








Avalanche danger forecast

for Sunday, 11. April 2010

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Danger level

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

