

National avalanche bulletin no. 32

for Friday, 10 December 2010

issue date 9.12.2010, 18:30 hours

Considerable avalanche danger widespread

Current conditions

On Thursday in northern regions it was heavily overcast, accompanied by isolated bright intervals. In southern regions it was predominantly sunny. On the northern flank of the Alps not including Urseren, in Lower Valais, in northern Valais and in Prättigau, there was 10 to 30 cm of snowfall. In the remaining regions of the Valais and Grisons, there was 5 to 10 cm of new fallen snow, elsewhere less. The snowfall level rapidly dropped down to low altitudes. On Thursday, the midday temperatures at 2000 m were between minus 10 degrees in northern regions and minus 7 degrees in southern regions. The wind was blowing at moderate to strong velocity. Last night, the winds were westerly; during the day today, northwesterly. The old snowpack is thoroughly wet at intermediate altitudes. At high altitudes it is very irregular. The more recently formed snowdrift accumulations are poorly bonded in some areas, making them easy to trigger. At altitudes above 2200 to 2400 m, loosely packed layers of faceted snow crystals are evident inside the old snowpack from place to place.

Short-term development

On Friday in the Valais and in southern regions, it will be generally sunny. On the northern flank of the Alps and in Grisons, it will be predominantly overcast and in eastern regions intermittent snowfall is anticipated down to low lying areas. In the central and eastern parts of the northern flank of the Alps as well as in Grisons, 5 to 15 cm of snowfall is anticipated by Friday afternoon; from Prättigau into the Samnaun, about 20 cm of snowfall is expected. The midday temperatures at 2000 m will be minus 8 degrees in western regions, minus 10 degrees in eastern regions and minus 6 degrees in southern regions. In the western regions, the wind will be blowing at moderate velocity, elsewhere moderate to strong from the northwest. The winds will give rise to fresh, predominantly small sized snowdrift accumulations.

Avalanche danger forecast for Friday

Northern Alpine Ridge; central and eastern parts of the northern flank of the Alps; Valais; northern Ticino; Grisons:

Considerable avalanche danger (Level 3)

On the northern Alpine Ridge west of Grimsel Pass and in the Lower Valais, the avalanche prone locations are to be found on steep slopes in all expositions above approximately 2200 m. The layers of snowdrift deposited over the last few days can be easily triggered in some areas. From place to place, avalanches can even fracture down in the old snowpack.

On the northern flank of the Alps east of Lake Brienz not including the Gotthard region, the avalanche prone locations are to be found primarily on wind loaded slopes in all expositions above approximately 1800 m. Freshly formed as well as somewhat older layers of snowdrift can be easily triggered in some areas.

In southern Upper Valais, in the Gotthard region, in northern Ticino and in Grisons, the avalanche prone locations are to be found primarily on wind loaded slopes in all expositions above approximately 2200 m. Particularly the layers of snowdrift from the last few days are prone to triggering. In the inneralpine regions of Grisons, the avalanche prone locations are somewhat less widespread; they are to be found in gullies and bowls more than anywhere else.

In all the regions of these danger levels, avalanches can be triggered even by a single backcountry skier or freerider.

Extensive experience in evaluating avalanche hazards is essential.

Remaining regions in the western part of the northern flank of the Alps; central Ticino; Sotto Ceneri:

Moderate avalanche danger (Level 2)

The avalanche prone locations are to be found primarily on wind loaded slopes in all expositions above approximately 2000 m. Local, generally small sized snowdrift accumulations from the last few days are prone to triggering in some areas and should be circumvented whenever possible.

Trend for Saturday and Sunday

On both days it will be predominantly overcast in northern and eastern regions. On Saturday in particular, intermittent snowfall is anticipated in eastern regions. In the Valais and on the southern flank of the Alps it will be generally sunny on both days. The avalanche danger in the furthestmost eastern regions is not expected to change significantly; elsewhere the danger will gradually subside.

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)

Feedback information:

Email: lwp@slf.ch






Free phone/fax: 0800 800 187 / 88

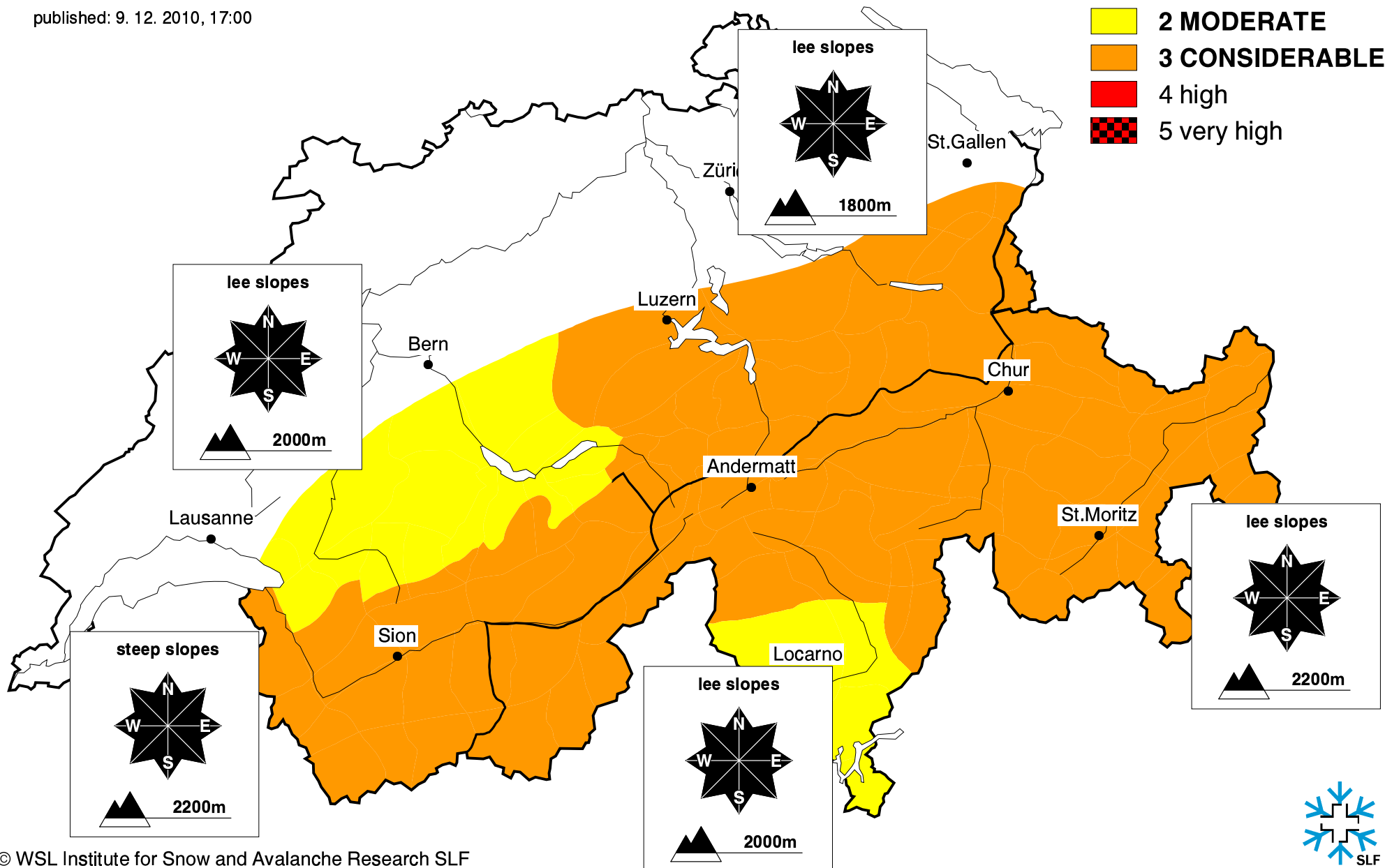
Avalanche danger forecast

for Friday, 10. December 2010

published: 9. 12. 2010, 17:00

Danger level

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








Avalanche danger forecast

for Friday, 10. December 2010

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Danger level

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

