

# National avalanche bulletin no. 83

for Sunday, 30 January 2011

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## *Caution urged towards freshly formed snowdrift accumulations*

### Current conditions

On Saturday it was overcast on the southern flank of the Alps, in the remaining regions it was partially cloudy, coming from the south. The midday temperatures at 2000 m were between minus 4 degrees in northwestern regions and minus 8 degrees in southern regions. The southerly wind was blowing lightly, although wind velocity was intermittently moderate on the northern Alpine Ridge and in Grisons in particular.

As a result of the southerly wind, further snowdrift accumulations have formed which can be easily triggered from place to place. More deeply embedded inside the snowpack, there are also hard packed layers which are directly adjacent to softer layers of faceted crystals and grains. These soft layers are thickest in the inneralpine regions. In general, however, the old snowpack evidences little tendency towards fracture propagation.

### Short-term development

In general on Sunday, it will be heavily overcast on the southern flank of the Alps, in the remaining regions predominantly sunny. The midday temperatures at 2000 m will be minus 3 degrees. The wind will be blowing at light to moderate velocity, initially coming from southerly directions, then shifting to easterly over the course of the day.

### Avalanche danger forecast for Sunday

Northern Alpine Ridge from Chablais to the Susten region not including northern Valais; central and eastern parts of the northern flank of the Alps; Gotthard region; central Grisons not including Main Alpine Ridge; in addition, the regions Flims-Untervaz, Schanfigg, Davos, Silvretta:

#### *Moderate avalanche danger (Level 2)*

In the indicated regions of the northern flank of the Alps not including the Gotthard region, the avalanche prone locations are located primarily on wind loaded slopes of western to northern to eastern exposition above approximately 2000 m.

In the Gotthard region, in central Grisons not including the Main Alpine Ridge, in addition in the regions of Flims-Untervaz, Schanfigg, Davos and Silvretta, the avalanche prone locations are to be found primarily on steep slopes of western to northern to eastern exposition above approximately 2400 m.

In all regions of this danger level, freshly formed snowdrift accumulations have been deposited in areas adjacent to ridge lines, in pass areas and in gullies and bowls more than anywhere else. They can from place to place be easily triggered, however remain small sized and are quite visible as a rule.

Furthermore, particularly in the indicated regions of Grisons, more deeply embedded layers inside the snowpack can be triggered especially through large additional loading. Very steep places with shallow snow in particular, such as transition areas into gullies and bowls, should be evaluated with great care.

Western part of the northern flank of the Alps north of the northern Alpine Ridge; Valais not including the regions of Chablais and Obergoms; Ticino not including the Gotthard region; remaining parts of northern and central Grisons and of the Engadine; southern valleys of Grisons:

#### *Low avalanche danger (Level 1)*

Isolated avalanche prone locations are to be found primarily in shady, extremely steep terrain at high altitudes. Avalanches are expected to fracture down to the old snowpack only seldom; this applies particularly to the inneralpine regions of the Valais. Freshly formed snowdrift accumulations should be avoided particularly in extreme terrain. The danger of being swept along and falling should be taken into consideration.

### Trend for Monday and Tuesday

In all regions of the Swiss Alps, it is expected to be predominantly sunny. Temperatures will rise somewhat in the mountains. The avalanche danger is expected to change only insignificantly.

#### 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  
 LAWBSV Lower Valais / VD  
 LAWVVS Upper Valais  
 LAWNGR North and Central Grisons  
 LAWSGR South Grisons  
 LAWBE0 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:

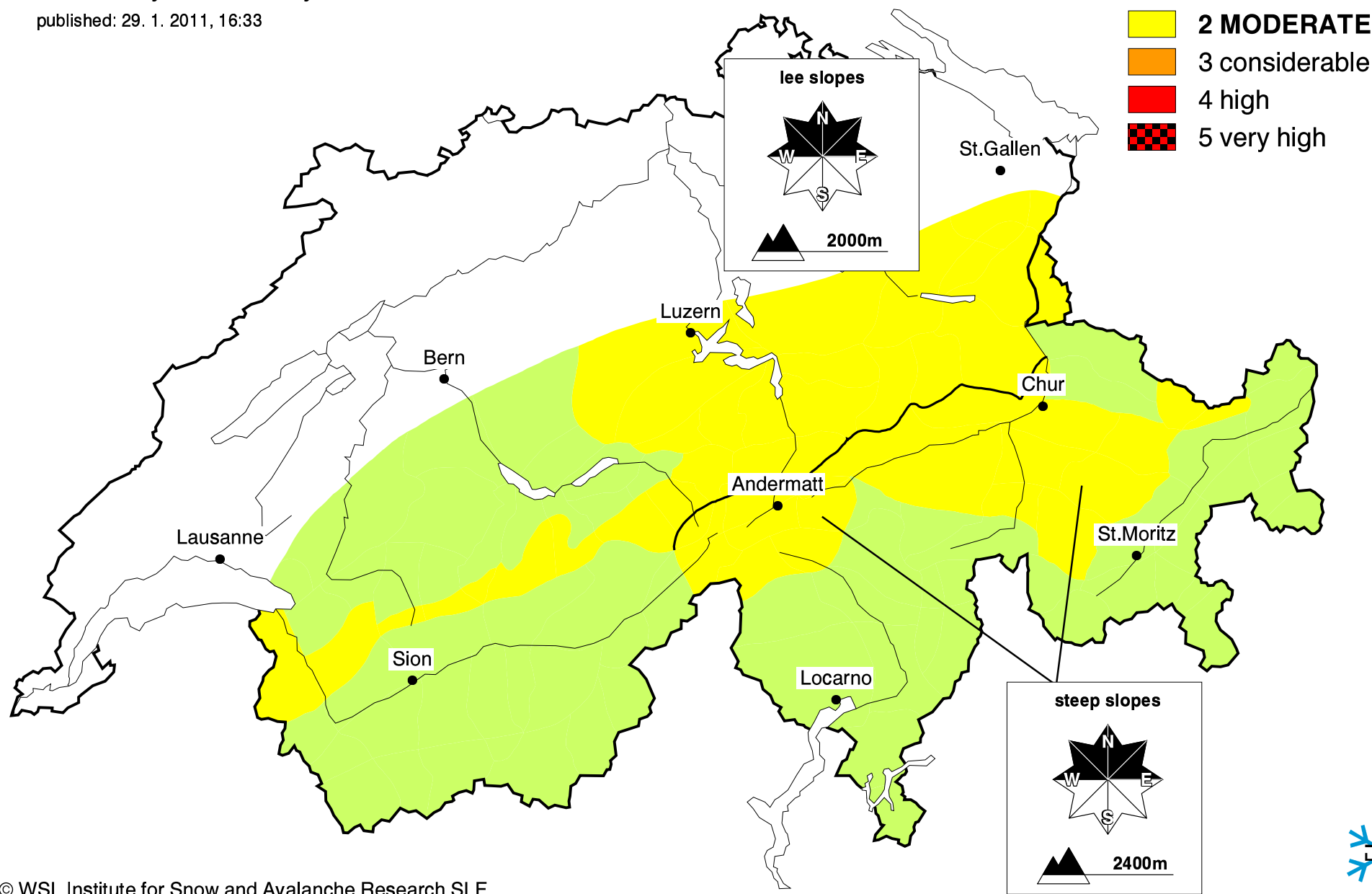
Email: [lw@slf.ch](mailto:lw@slf.ch)

Free phone/fax: 0800 800 187 / 88

# Avalanche danger forecast

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