



# National avalanche bulletin no. 84

for Monday, 31 January 2011

issue date 30.1.2011, 18:30 hours

## *Caution urged towards snowdrift accumulations*

### Current conditions

On Sunday in northern regions it was predominantly sunny above the high fog; on the Main Alpine Ridge and southwards therefrom, it was heavily overcast. The midday temperatures at 2000 m were minus 3 degrees in northern regions and minus 5 degrees in southern regions. The southerly wind, particularly along the northern Alpine Ridge, blew at moderate velocity; from region to region it was also strong.

The wind continued to give rise to the formation of snowdrift masses in some regions. 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

On Monday it will be generally sunny in all regions of the Swiss Alps. The midday temperature at 2000 m will be minus 3 degrees. The wind will be blowing at light to moderate velocity from easterly directions.

### Avalanche danger forecast for Monday

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

#### *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 to be found primarily on wind loaded slopes of southwestern 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 and Davos, the avalanche prone locations are to be found primarily on steep slopes of southwestern 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, are small sized as a rule.

Furthermore, particularly in the indicated regions of Grisons from place to place, more deeply embedded layers inside the snowpack can be triggered especially through large additional loading. In particular, very steep places with shallow snow, 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; eastern Prealps; Valais not including the regions of Chablais and Obergoms; Ticino not including the Gotthard region; remaining parts of central Grisons and of the Engadine; Prättigau; Engadine; southern valleys of Grisons:

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

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

In all regions of the Swiss Alps, the frequency of avalanche prone locations and the size of the snow masses which can be potentially triggered, depending on the extent of wind influence, tend to increase with ascending altitude. Thus, the danger level must be assessed as higher with rising altitude.

### Trend for Tuesday and Wednesday

In all regions, it is expected to be predominantly sunny. On the southern flank of the Alps, it will become milder. 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  
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>

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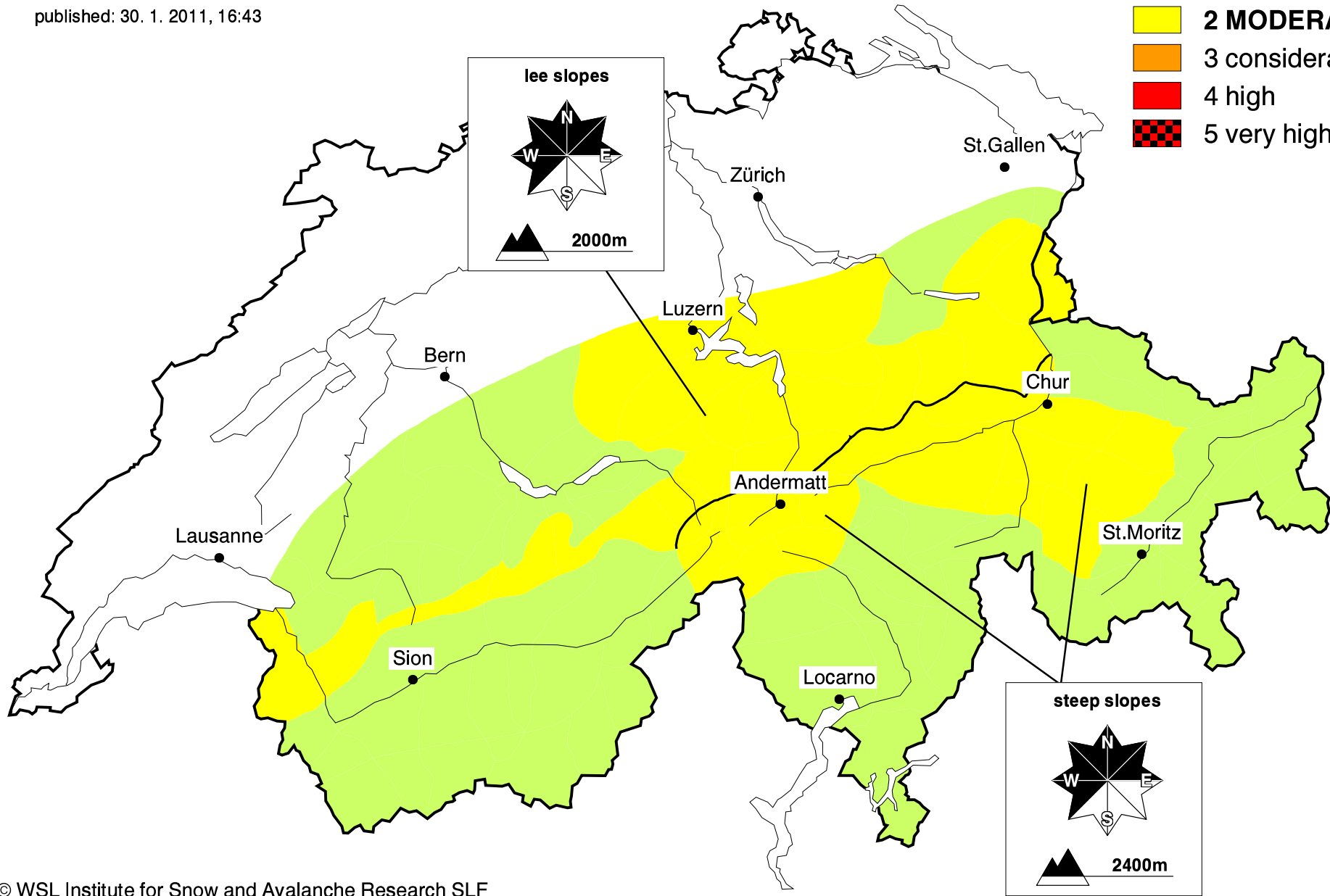
# Avalanche danger forecast

for Monday, 31. January 2011

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Danger level

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








# Avalanche danger forecast

for Monday, 31. January 2011

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Danger level

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

