

National avalanche bulletin no. 90

for Sunday, 6 February 2011

issue date 5.2.2011, 18:30 hours

Caution urged towards snowdrift accumulations and daytime warming cycle

Current conditions

On Saturday it was sunny. The midday temperatures at 2000 m were plus 5 degrees in western and southern regions, plus 3 degrees in eastern regions. The westerly wind was blowing at moderate to strong velocity at high altitudes; at intermediate altitudes and in Lower Valais the wind was light.

At high altitudes, the old snow was transported. Generally small sized snowdrift accumulations are to be found in areas adjacent to ridge lines, gullies and bowls, more than anywhere else. As far up as high altitudes, steep, south facing slopes have become superficially moist over the course of the day. Particularly in the inneralpine regions of the Valais and Grisons, there are weak layers more deeply embedded inside the snowpack. Since fractures cannot be expected to propagate in the intensely faceted snowpack, there were only rare avalanches triggered in the old snowpack.

Short-term development

On Sunday it will be sunny. The midday temperatures at 2000 m will rise to plus 7 degrees in western and southern regions; in eastern regions, to plus 5 degrees. The freezing level will be about 3000 m. At high altitudes, the northwesterly wind will be blowing at moderate velocity, in western regions at light velocity.

Avalanche danger forecast for Sunday

Northern flank of the Alps from the Bernese Oberland to Liechtenstein not including Prealps; Main Alpine Ridge from the Matterhorn into Bergell; northern Surselva; Flims - Untervaz; Oberhalbstein; Engadine; Puschlav; Münstertal:

Moderate avalanche danger (Level 2)

The avalanche prone locations are to be found primarily in gullies and bowls in all expositions above approximately 2500 m. Freshly formed and, in isolated cases, even older snowdrift accumulations are prone to triggering, but are generally small sized. They are easily visible and should be avoided whenever possible. Quite apart from the perils of being buried by snow, the hazards of being swept along and falling should be taken into consideration when deciding upon routes.

Prealps; Chablais; Vaud and Fribourg Alps; Lower Valais; Upper Valais and Ticino, in both cases not including the regions along the Main Alpine Ridge; in addition, remaining northern and central Grisons; lower Val Moesa and lower Val Calanca:

Low avalanche danger (Level 1)

Isolated avalanche prone locations are to be found primarily on wind protected slopes adjacent to ridge lines. The snowdrift patches are small, but can be triggered. More than anything else, caution is urged towards the danger of being swept along and falling. In high alpine regions, the avalanche prone locations occur somewhat more frequently.

On very steep, sunny slopes in all regions of the Swiss Alps, moist sluffs and generally small sized avalanches can be expected over the course of the day. This is particularly the case below about 2500 m.

Trend for Monday and Tuesday

On Monday it is expected to be sunny and mild, the freezing level will be 3200 m. On Tuesday, it will be sunny and cooler to begin with. In northern regions during the afternoon, high altitude clouds will move in. The danger of dry avalanches is expected to gradually subside. The danger of moist avalanches is expected to increase somewhat on Monday, then decline on Tuesday.

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:

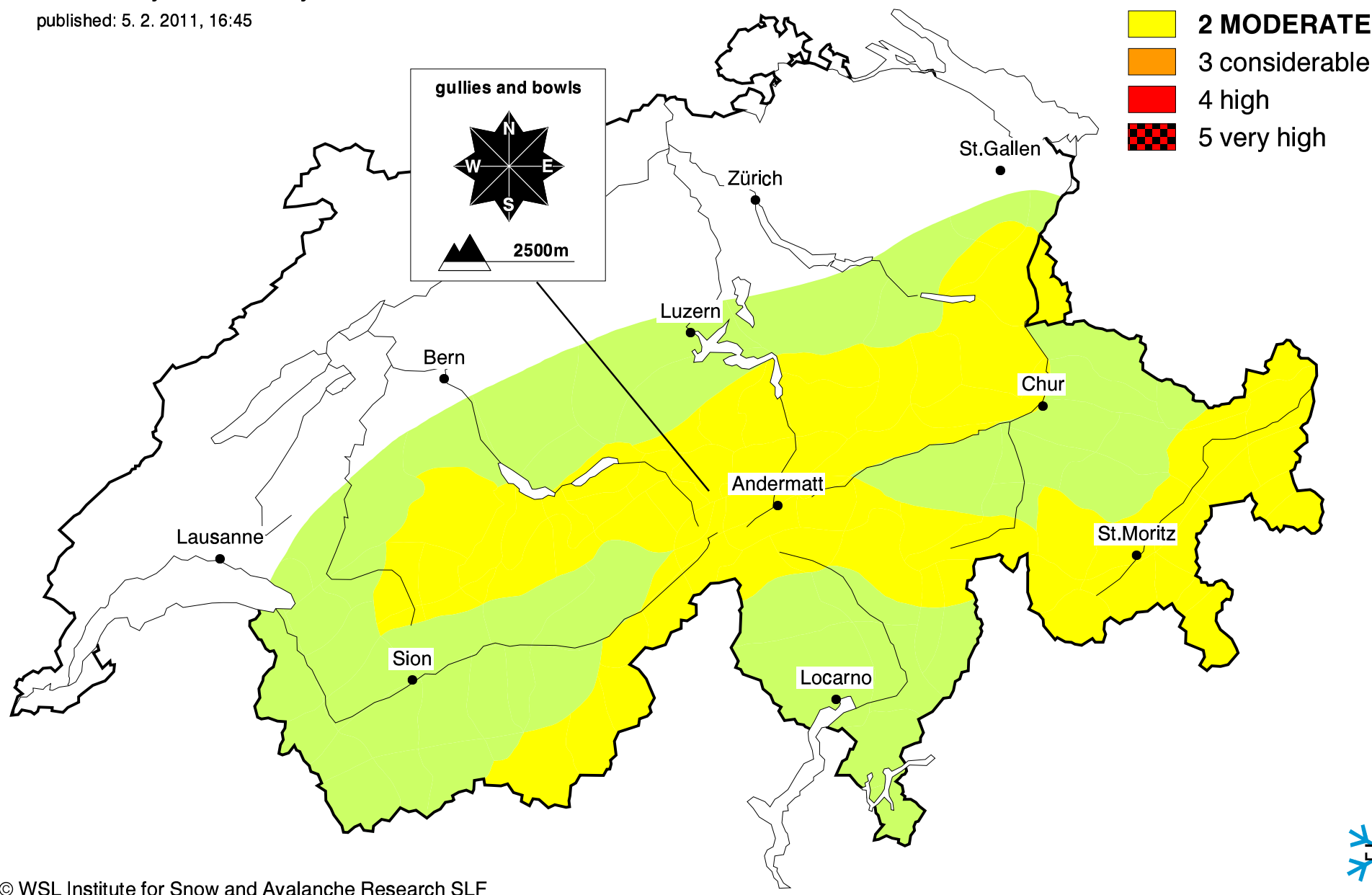
Email: lw@slf.ch

Free phone/fax: 0800 800 187 / 88

Avalanche danger forecast

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Avalanche danger forecast

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Danger level

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

