

## National avalanche bulletin no. 110

for Saturday, 26 February 2011

issue date 25.2.2011, 18:30 hours

### *A treacherous avalanche situation in outlying terrain away from secured ski runs*

#### Current conditions

On Friday in the Valais and in Ticino, it was predominantly sunny. In eastern regions there was an additional bit of snowfall during the morning. Subsequently there were intermittent bright intervals. Between Thursday morning and Friday midday on the northern flank of the Alps, in the Valais not including the regions of Saastal and Simplon, as well as in the Prättigau, there was 10 to 20 cm of snowfall. In the remaining regions there was maximum 10 cm of new fallen snow widespread, in the furthestmost southern regions no fresh fallen snow whatsoever. The midday temperature at 2000 m in the Valais and in Ticino was zero degrees, in the remaining regions it was minus 3 degrees. The high altitude winds in most regions were blowing at strong velocity, from place to place reaching storm strength, from northerly directions.

At high altitudes more than anywhere else, the snow continued being transported.

#### Short-term development

On Saturday it will be generally sunny. During the afternoon, clouds will move in from the west. In western and southern regions, the midday temperatures at 2000 m will be zero degrees, in eastern regions minus 2 degrees. The wind is expected to slacken off and be blowing at moderate velocity from westerly to northerly directions.

Both older and freshly formed snowdrift accumulations remain prone to triggering.

#### Avalanche danger forecast for Saturday

Northern flank of the Alps not including the western Prealps; Valais; northern and central Ticino; Grisons:

##### *Considerable avalanche danger (Level 3)*

On the northern flank of the Alps not including the western Prealps, in northern Valais, in Goms, in the Gotthard region, in the regions north of the Anterior Rhine and in the Prättigau, the avalanche prone locations are to be found primarily on wind loaded slopes in all expositions above approximately 2000 m. The layers of fresh fallen snow and snowdrift from this week are often inadequately bonded with the old snowpack and in some places can be triggered as avalanches even by a single backcountry skier or freerider. Avalanches can attain medium size.

In the remaining Grisons, in northern Ticino not including the Gotthard region and in central Ticino, the avalanche prone locations are to be found primarily on wind loaded slopes in all expositions above approximately 2200 m. In southern Valais not including the regions of Goms, the hazardous zones are to be found primarily on wind loaded slopes in all expositions above approximately 2400 m. Both freshly formed and older snowdrift accumulations have most often been deposited in gullies and bowls, in high alpine regions the danger zones are spread out more extensively. They can be easily triggered in some places and should be avoided whenever possible. Particularly in the inneralpine regions of Grisons and the Valais, avalanches in isolated cases can even sweep along the more deeply embedded layers of the snowpack which have been insufficiently consolidated.

Backcountry skiing and freeriding tours in all regions of this danger level require extensive experience in the evaluation of avalanche hazards.

Western Prealps; 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 1800 m. Snowdrift accumulations have been deposited most frequently in areas adjacent to ridge lines and pass areas, as well as in gullies and bowls. They are predominantly small sized, but can in some places be easily triggered. They should be examined and evaluated with great care.

In all regions of the Swiss Alps, the solar radiation will make moist sluffs likely on very steep, south facing slopes.

#### Trend for Sunday and Monday

On Sunday, snowfall down to low lying areas is anticipated widespread, in northern regions the snowfall will be heavy in some places. On Monday in northern regions, an additional bit of snowfall is expected, in southern regions conditions will be variable. The avalanche danger is expected to escalate a bit further on Sunday in northern regions in particular. On Monday, the avalanche peril will gradually subside in all regions.

##### 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

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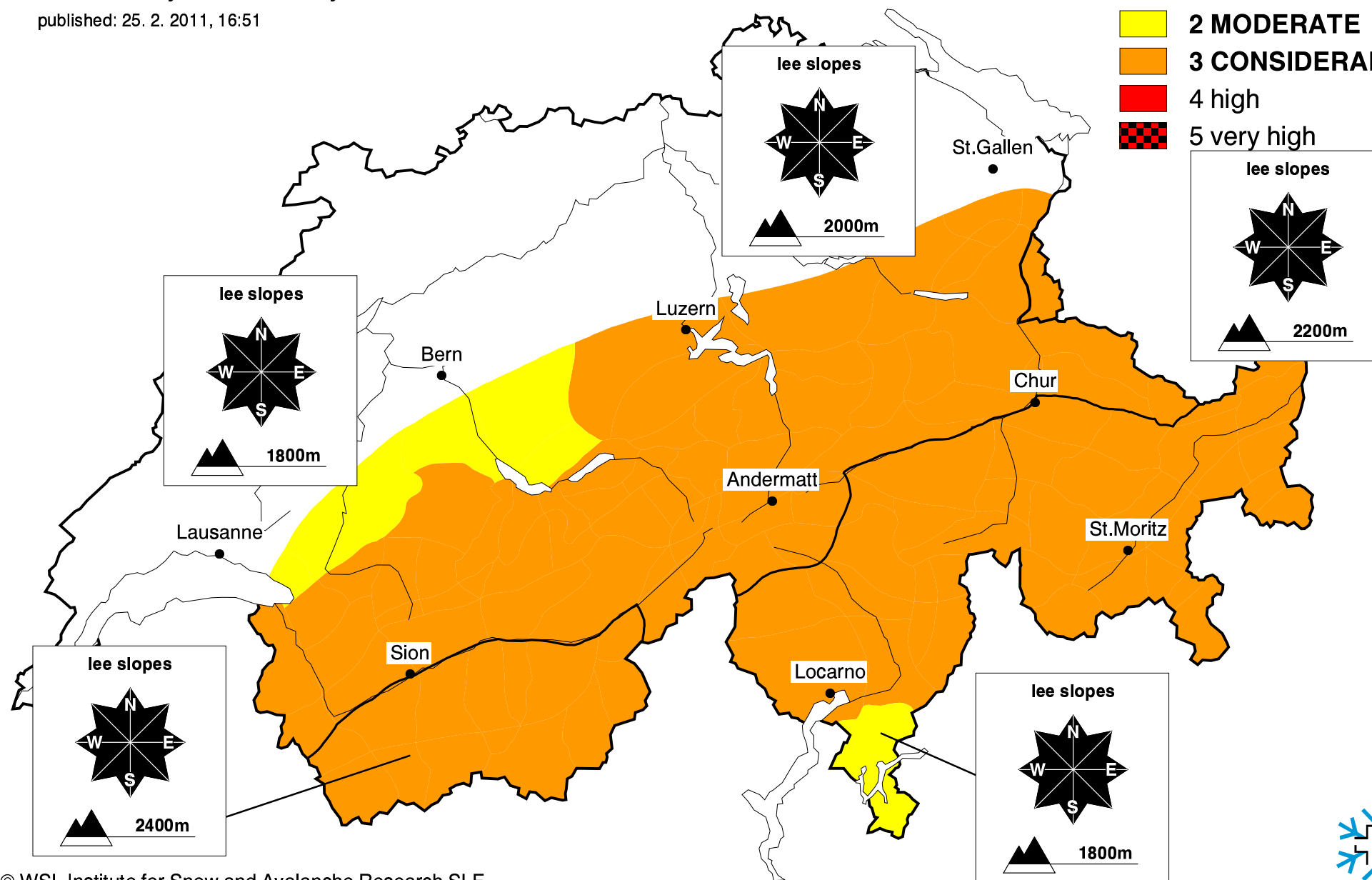
# Avalanche danger forecast

for Saturday, 26. February 2011

published: 25. 2. 2011, 16:51

Danger level

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








# Avalanche danger forecast

for Saturday, 26. February 2011

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Danger level

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

