

# National avalanche bulletin no. 114

for Wednesday, 2 March 2011

issue date 1.3.2011, 18:30 hours

*Avalanche danger considerable in the north and moderate in the south*

## Current conditions

On Tuesday the weather was mostly sunny above the low stratus in the north, and increasingly sunny in Ticino and southern Valais. In the western part of the main Alpine ridge, the snowfalls ceased towards midday. Since Sunday, 10 cm of snow has fallen there over a wide area, and as much as 60 cm has fallen in the high Alpine regions from Saastal to the southern Simplon region. The midday temperature at 2000 m on Tuesday was about minus 1 degree. The wind was moderate from the southeast.

The fresh snow of last week, on north facing slopes in particular, is lying on faceted, soft old snow in some places and remains prone to triggering in some cases. In particular on the northern Alpine ridge and in the western part of the main Alpine ridge, fresh snow drift accumulations have formed. They are more prevalent and larger on the main Alpine ridge from Monte Rosa to the southern Simplon region.

## Short-term development

Wednesday will be mostly sunny in the mountains. The limit of the low stratus cloud cover will be approximately 1900 to 2400 m. Cloudbanks will build up in the south during the day. The midday temperature at 2000 m will be about minus 3 degrees. The easterly wind will be moderate in the north and the high Alpine regions, but light in the south. In particular in the regions with fresh snow in the western part of the main Alpine ridge and generally adjacent to the ridge line, the loosely bonded fresh snow of recent days will be transported.

## Avalanche danger forecast for Wednesday

Northern flank of the Alps; Valais; Grisons excluding Engadine south of the Inn and the Grisons southern valleys:

*Considerable avalanche danger (level 3)*

On the northern flank of the Alps excluding Urseren, and in northern Lower Valais, avalanche prone locations are to be found, in particular, on southwest to north to east facing steep slopes, and in areas adjacent to the ridge line and pass areas in all aspects, above approximately 1800 m. Near-surface layers of the snowpack and fresh snow drift accumulations can be released easily in some cases. Avalanches can reach up to medium size.

In the rest of Valais excluding both Upper Saastal and the southern Simplon region, and in Urseren, avalanche prone locations are to be found, in particular, on southwest to north to east facing steep slopes, and in areas adjacent to the ridge line and pass areas in all aspects, above approximately 2400 m. In Upper Saastal and the southern Simplon region, they are to be found on steep slopes of all aspects above approximately 2200 m. In northern and central Grisons and in Engadine north of the Inn, they are to be found, in particular, on southwest to north to east facing steep slopes above approximately 2200 m. The main danger is posed by the fresh and older snow drift accumulations. In many cases, they are lying adjacent to the ridge line and in gullies and bowls, and in some cases they can be released easily. In Upper Saastal and the southern Simplon region, the avalanche prone locations are more prevalent. Here in particular, avalanches can reach medium size. In all regions subject to this danger level, avalanches can be triggered by a single person. Those engaging in backcountry touring and off-piste activities must dispose of experience in the assessment of avalanche danger.

Ticino; Engadine south of the Inn; Grisons southern valleys:

*Moderate avalanche danger (level 2)*

The avalanche prone locations are to be found, in particular, on wind-loaded slopes of all aspects above approximately 2000 m. They are to be found predominantly on west to north to east facing aspects in the central part of the southern flank of the Alps, but on all aspects elsewhere. The fresh and older snow drift accumulations are generally small, but can be released easily in some cases. Careful route selection is important.

In view of the solar radiation, small wet snow slides are to be expected on very steep south facing slopes, as are loose snow avalanches in rocky areas.

## Trend for Thursday and Friday

On Thursday, the weather will be sunny in the north and become increasingly bright in the south. On Friday it will be generally sunny. The avalanche danger will decrease slowly.

### 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)

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0900 162 138 / 338 Alpine Weather Report MeteoSwiss phone/fax  
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### 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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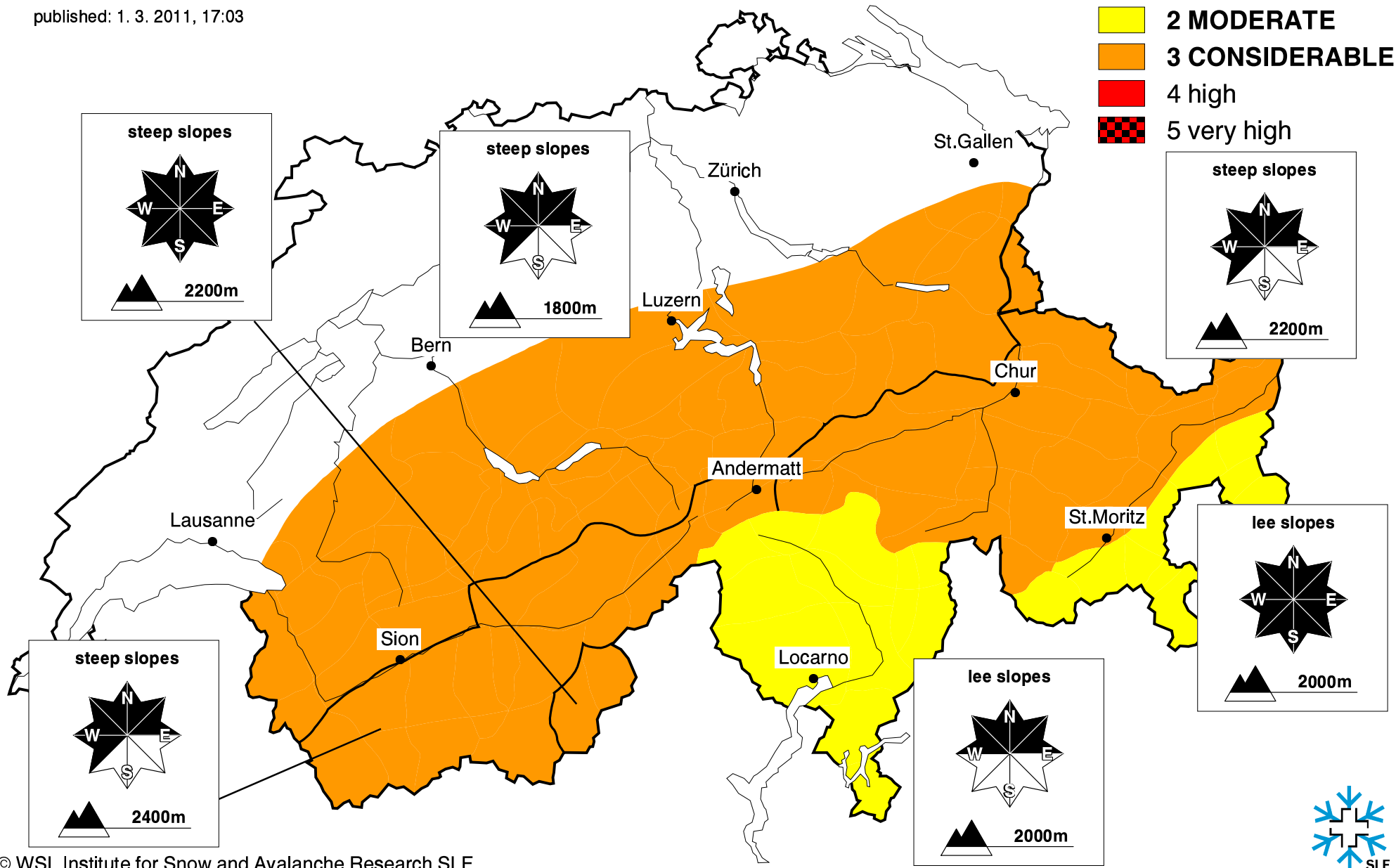
# Avalanche danger forecast

for Wednesday, 2. March 2011

published: 1. 3. 2011, 17:03

Danger level

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








# Avalanche danger forecast

for Wednesday, 2. March 2011

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Danger level

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

