

# National avalanche bulletin no. 121

for Wednesday, 9 March 2011

issue date 8.3.2011, 18:30 hours

*Generally favourable avalanche situation, but critical locations in little used terrain*

## Current conditions

Tuesday was sunny and mild in the mountains. Midday temperatures at 2000 m were about 0 degrees in the north and minus 5 degrees in the south. The wind was light from various directions.

On shady slopes at high altitude, the snowpack is loosely bonded and contains large grains in many places. In some cases, the wind has formed a firm crust on the snowpack. Crusts are forming increasingly on south facing slopes. In the mornings, on steep south facing steep at intermediate altitudes in particular, these crusts are strong. On the northern flank of the Alps, in the inneralpine regions of Valais and in northern and central Grisons in particular, weak layers are to be found in the snowpack. In some cases, these already exist above the tree line. In various regions, predominantly small snow drift accumulations are to be found adjacent to the ridge line in particular.

## Short-term development

Wednesday will be sunny everywhere in the mountains. Midday temperatures at 2000 m will be about 0 degrees. The wind will be light to moderate, predominantly from the west.

The near-surface layers of the snowpack will become moist again during the day and prone to triggering in some places, predominantly on south facing slopes, because of radiation and the mild temperatures.

## Avalanche danger forecast for Wednesday

Swiss Alps:

*Moderate avalanche danger (level 2)*

The avalanche prone locations are to be found, in particular, on steep slopes. On the northern flank of the Alps excluding Urseren, they are to be found predominantly in west to north to east facing aspects above approximately 1800 m. In Saastal, the Simplon region, Binntal, southern Surselva including the side valleys, and in Zervreila, the avalanche prone locations that are to be assessed especially critically are to be found, in particular, in southwest to north to southeast facing aspects above approximately 2000 m. In the rest of Valais and in Urseren, Ticino and the rest of Grisons, the avalanche prone locations are to be found, in particular, on west to north to east facing steep slopes above approximately 2200 m. The older and mostly shallow snow drift accumulations in particular must be evaluated with care and prudence. They can be released easily in some places and pick up relatively large quantities of snow. In view of the extremely unfavourable bonding of the snowpack, avalanches can also be released in deeper layers of the snowpack by a large additional load in Saastal, the Simplon region, Binntal, southern Surselva including the side valleys, and in Zervreila. The danger is generally more prevalent in little used terrain than in the other regions. Careful route selection is important.

In all regions, small wet snow slides and, in isolated cases, avalanches are to be expected on sunny slopes during the day below approximately 2500 m.

## Trend for Thursday and Friday

Thursday and Friday will be sunny in the mountains. On Friday afternoon, cloud will build up in the south. To an increasing extent, the danger of avalanches will vary slightly during the day.

### 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](http://wap.slf.ch)

**Teletext:** Page 782 (SF DRS)

**Phone:** 187 (Fr. 0.50/call and min)

**Feedback information:**

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






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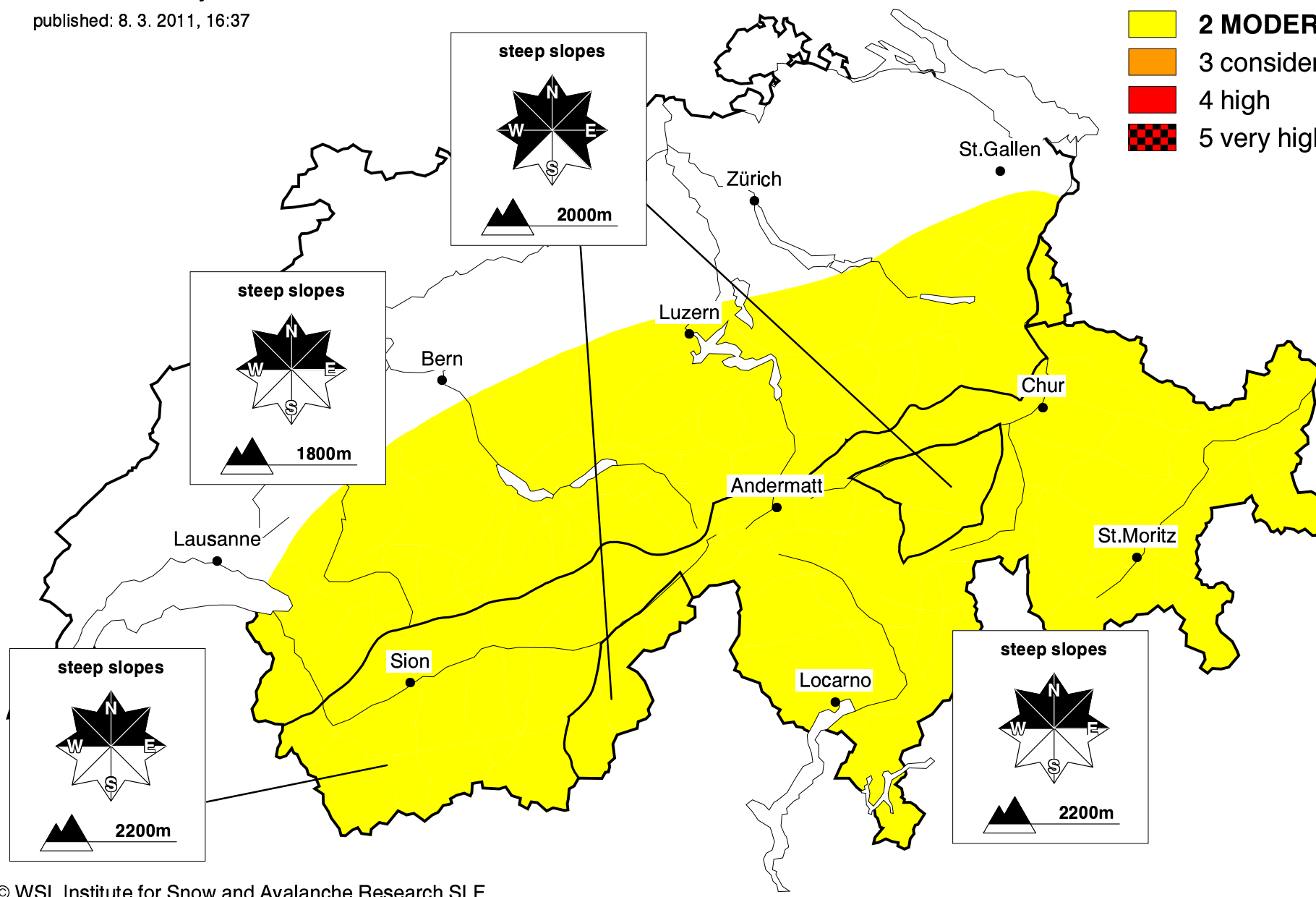
# Avalanche danger forecast

for Wednesday, 9. March 2011

published: 8. 3. 2011, 16:37

Danger level

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








# Avalanche danger forecast

for Wednesday, 9. March 2011

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Danger level

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

