

National avalanche bulletin no. 147

for Monday, 4 April 2011

issue date 3.4.2011, 18:30 hours

Danger both of dry and wet avalanches

Current conditions

On Sunday, following a night of clear skies, it was generally sunny and extraordinarily warm. The midday temperature at 2000 m was plus 8 degrees. The southwesterly wind was blowing at light strength.

On north facing slopes more than anywhere else, layers of bonded snow lie on top of a soft, faceted old snowpack. These bonded layers are prone to triggering from place to place, particularly in the southern sectors of the Valais and in the inneralpine regions of Grisons.

Short-term development

On Sunday night the skies will be overcast. In northern regions, precipitation will set in, and continue throughout the day on Monday. In southern and western regions, the skies will brighten up during the afternoon. By Monday midday, the snowfall level will drop from 2500 m down to approximately 1500 m. On the northern flank of the Alps, 10 to 20 cm of snowfall is anticipated, from place to place as much as 30 cm of new fallen snow. From northern Valais over the Gotthard region to northern Grisons, 5 to 10 cm of fresh fallen snow is expected, elsewhere less. The winds will shift from southwesterly to northwesterly. At 2000 m, winds will be light, in high alpine regions intermittently of strong velocity.

In northern regions more than anywhere else, the moist snowpack below about 2500 m will be further weakened through the rain. Subsequently, the new fallen snow will prevent the snowpack from cooling off. Thus, it will remain prone to triggering.

Avalanche danger forecast for Monday

Northern flank of the Alps not including Prealps:

Considerable danger of dry avalanches (Level 3)

The avalanche prone locations are to be found primarily on wind loaded slopes in all expositions above approximately 2600 m. The snowdrift accumulations are expected to grow in size during the morning. They are to be found primarily in areas adjacent to ridge lines and in pass areas, as well as in high alpine regions and can be triggered even by a single backcountry skier or freerider.

Prealps; Valais; northern Ticino; Grisons:

Moderate danger of dry avalanches (Level 2)

In the Valais, in northern Ticino and in Grisons, the avalanche prone locations are to be found primarily on steep slopes of northwestern to northern to eastern exposition above approximately 2400 m. In the Prealps, the hazardous zones are found primarily on steep slopes of northwestern to northern to northeastern exposition above approximately 2200 m. In isolated cases, avalanches can be triggered in more deeply embedded layers inside the snowpack. This is particularly the case in southern Valais and in the inneralpine regions of Grisons. Whumpfung sounds or skiers breaking through the weakly consolidated old snowpack can be indicators of imminent danger. Particularly in high alpine regions, in addition, special caution is urged towards freshly formed, usually small sized snowdrift accumulations primarily in areas adjacent to ridge lines in all expositions.

Central Ticino; Sotto Ceneri:

Low danger of dry avalanches (Level 1)

On seldom frequented, north facing slopes more than anywhere else, avalanches can be triggered in more deeply embedded layers inside the snowpack in isolated cases.

Danger of wet avalanches:

On the northern flank of the Alps, in the Valais and in Grisons, not including the regions of Val Calanca and Val Moesa, there is considerable danger of wet snow avalanches (Level 3) even during the night as well as through the course of the entire day, due to the insufficient outgoing radiation during the night and the rainfall. Below approximately 2600 m on slopes of all expositions, naturally triggered avalanches can be expected. Particularly at high altitudes, exposed sections of transportation routes will be endangered in isolated cases. Moist or wet avalanches can be triggered even by backcountry skiers and freeriders. In the central part of the southern flank of the Alps, there will be moderate danger of wet avalanches. In that zone, isolated wet snow avalanches are particularly possible during the afternoon.

Trend for Tuesday and Wednesday

On both days it will be quite sunny and warm. The danger of dry avalanches will subside. The danger of wet avalanches will again be subject to a daytime warming cycle.

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: lwp@slf.ch

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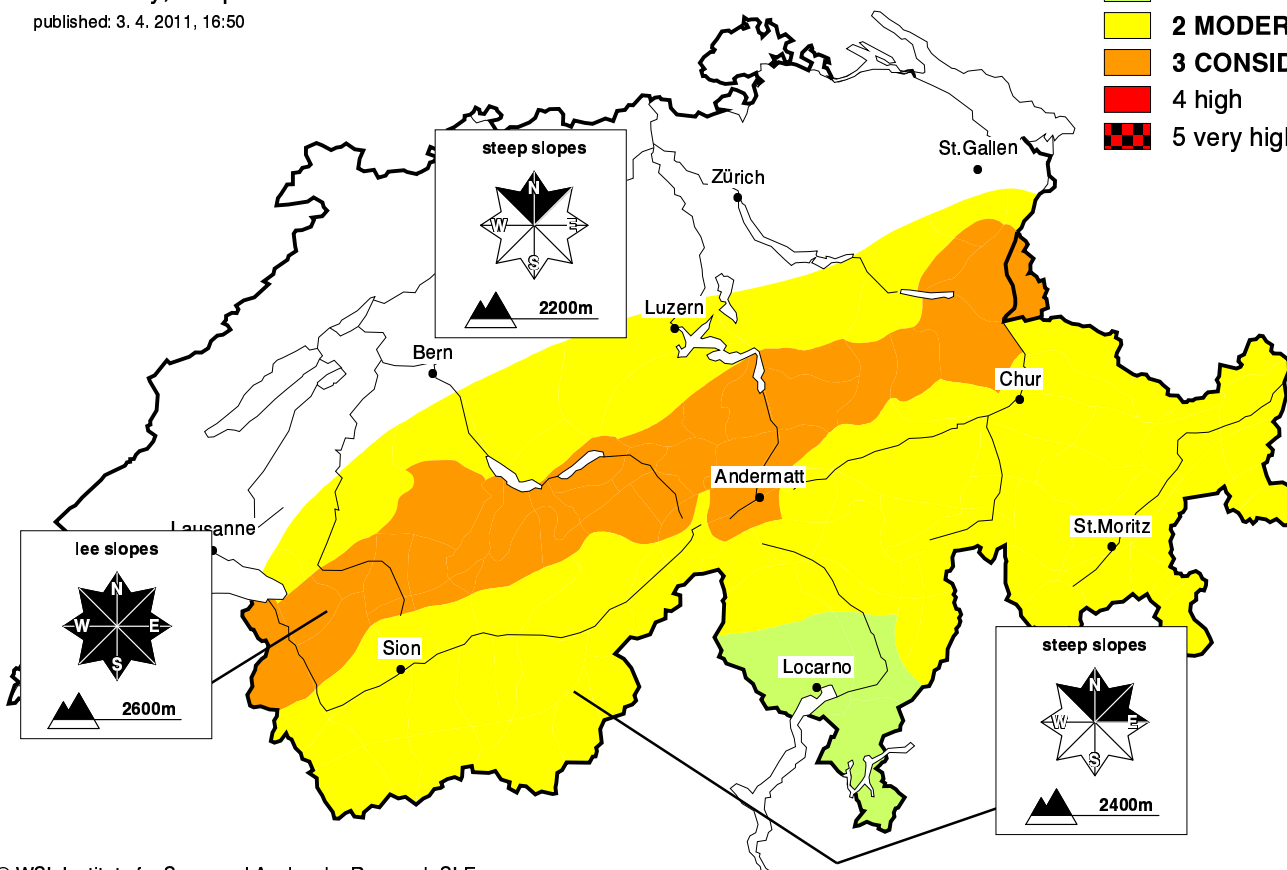
Danger forecast for dry snow avalanches

for Monday, 4. April 2011

published: 3. 4. 2011, 16:50

Danger level

- 1 LOW
- 2 MODERATE
- 3 CONSIDERABLE
- 4 high
- 5 very high



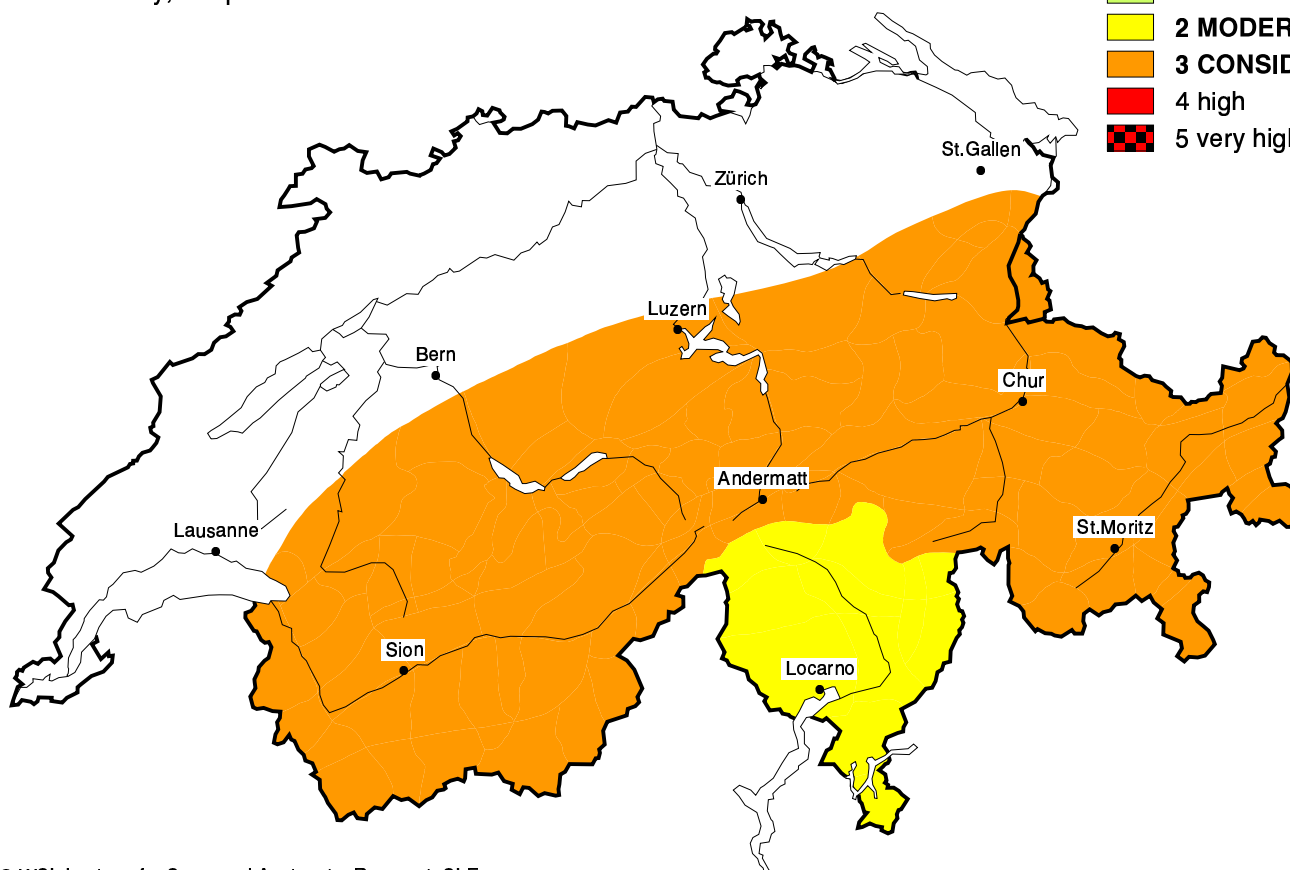
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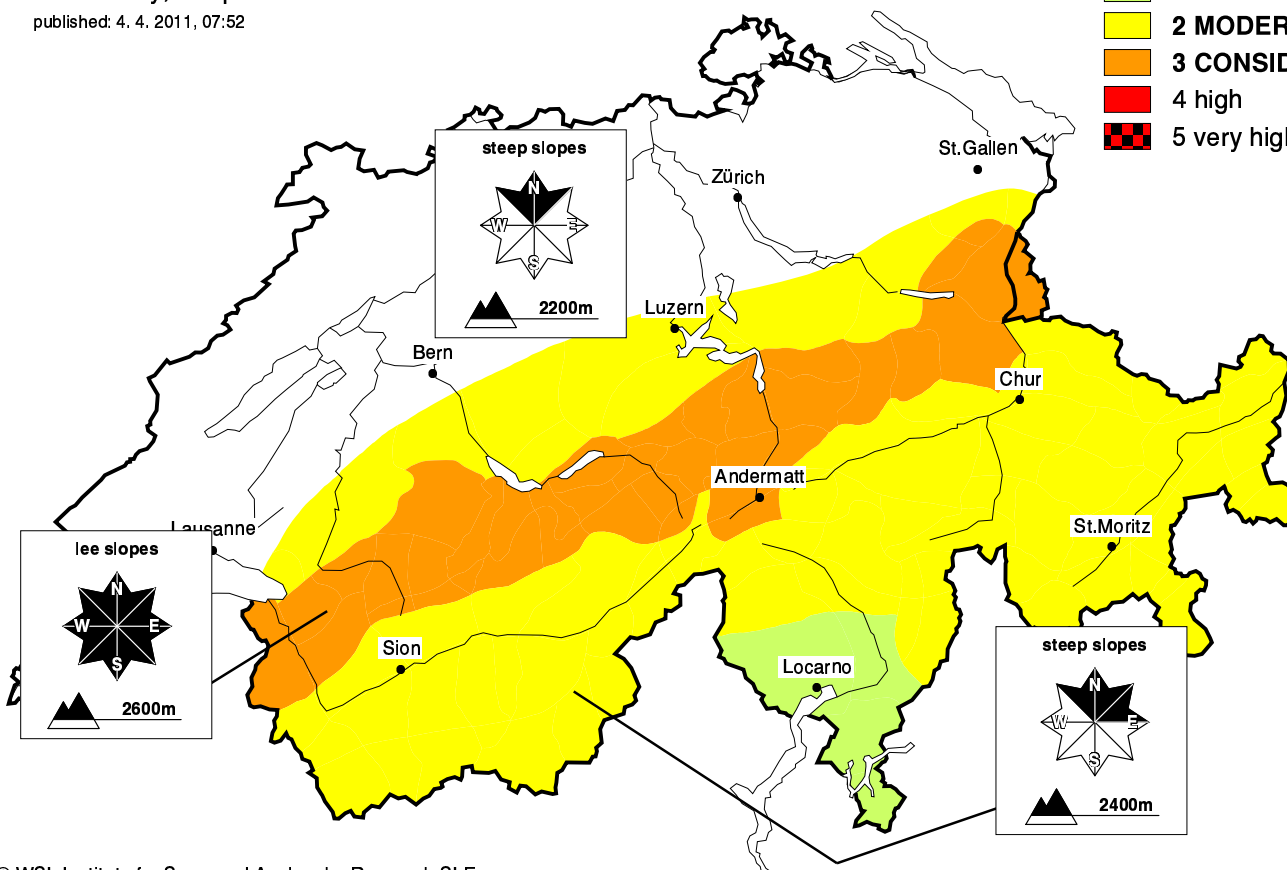
Danger forecast for dry snow avalanches

for Monday, 4. April 2011

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Danger level

- 1 LOW
- 2 MODERATE
- 3 CONSIDERABLE
- 4 high
- 5 very high



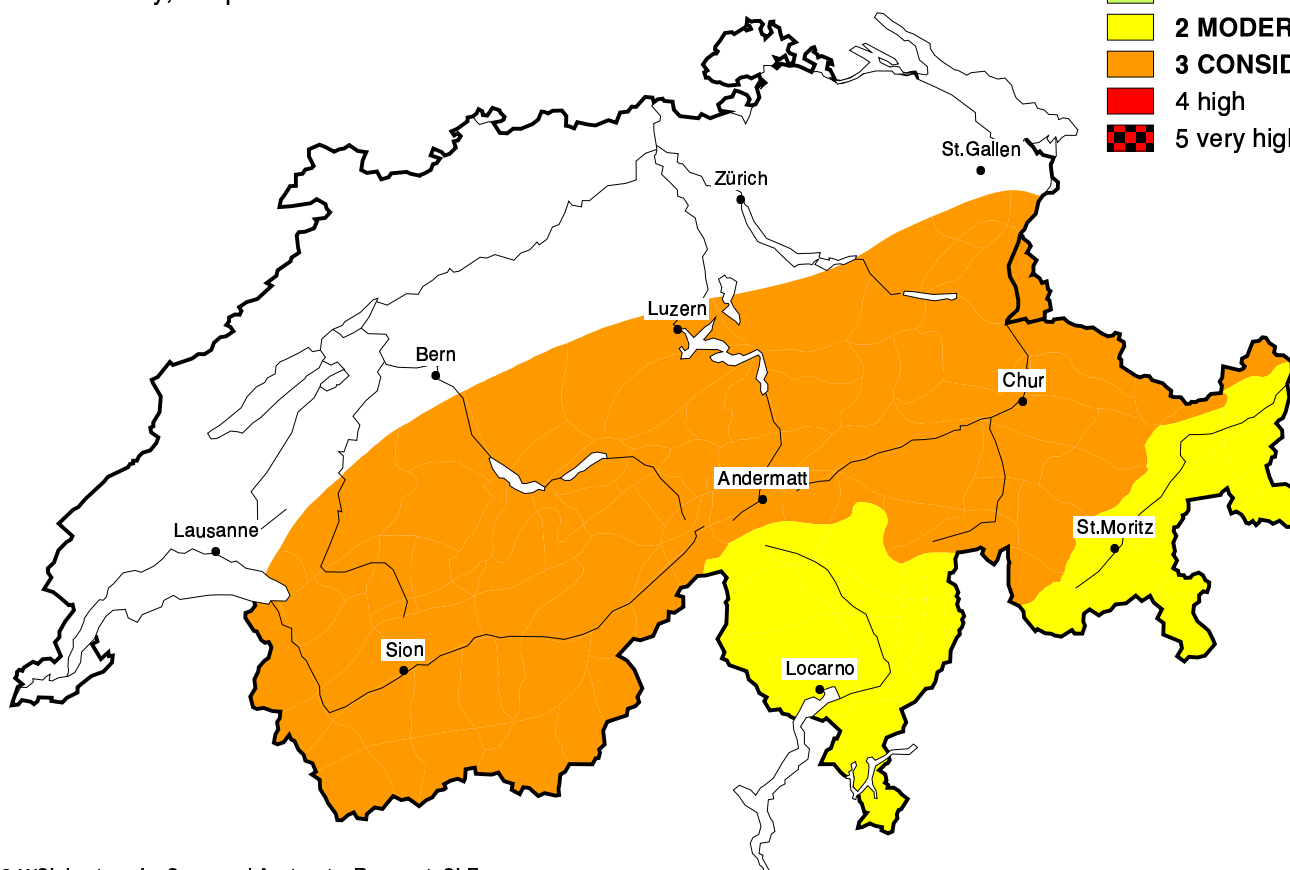
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