

National avalanche bulletin no. 154

for Monday, 11 April 2011

issue date 10.4.2011, 18:30 hours

Increasing danger of wet snow avalanches during the day

Current conditions

On Saturday night, the skies were clear. During the day on Sunday, it is sunny. The midday temperatures at 2000 m were between plus 9 degrees in western and southern regions and plus 5 degrees in eastern regions. The northeasterly wind was blowing at light to moderate strength.

Due to the extraordinarily mild temperatures over the last four days, approximately 25 cm of the snowpack has melted. The snow lines on north facing slopes are at 1600 m, in some places of western regions at 2000 m. On south facing slopes, they are approximately 500 m higher, in the Valais and in the Engadine as much as 800 m higher in places. The snowpack on south facing slopes is thoroughly wet up to over 3000 m, on north facing slopes to approximately 2800 m. The snow layering is particularly weak on northern slopes in the southern sector of the Valais and in the inneralpine regions of Grisons. Wet snowslides and wet snow avalanches can sweep away the entire snowpack in some places.

Short-term development

On Monday, following a night of clear skies, it will be predominantly sunny. From the northwest, high altitude cloudbanks will move in. The freezing level will gradually descend, reaching about 3000 m by midday. The wind will be blowing at light to moderate velocity from northerly directions.

Above approximately 2000 m during the night, a crust will form on the uppermost snowpack surface which is capable of bearing loads. Over the course of the morning hours, corn snow will form and the snowpack will lose its firmness.

Avalanche danger forecast for Monday

Northern Alpine Ridge from Chablais to the Glarner Alps; southern Urseren; Valais not including southern Simplon region; northern Grisons not including northern Prättigau; central Grisons; Engadine; Münstertal:

Moderate danger of dry avalanches (Level 2)

The avalanche prone locations are to be found primarily on steep slopes in northwestern to northern to northeastern exposition above approximately 2600 m. In isolated cases, avalanches can be triggered in more deeply embedded layers inside the snowpack. In the southern Valais and in the inneralpine regions of Grisons, more than anywhere else, avalanches can attain medium size. Whumpfung sounds and skiers breaking through the weakly consolidated old snowpack can be indicators of imminent danger. A prudent route selection is important.

Remaining northern flank of the Alps; northern Prättigau; southern flank of the Alps not including Münstertal:

Low danger of dry avalanches (Level 1)

Isolated avalanche prone locations for dry avalanches are to be found primarily on extremely steep, north facing slopes above approximately 2400 m.

Danger of wet avalanches:

In all regions of the Swiss Alps, the danger of wet snow avalanches is expected to escalate over the course of the day, reaching Level 2 (moderate). From not yet discharged south, east and west facing slopes below about 3400 m, and on north facing slopes below about 2800 m, naturally triggered wet snow avalanches are possible. Skiing and freeriding tours in outlying terrain should be launched early and brought to an end in sufficient time.

Trend for Tuesday and Wednesday

On Tuesday, as a cold front traverses the land, the temperatures are expected to drop significantly. Precipitation can be expected particularly on the northern flank of the Alps. The snowfall level will descend from over 2000 m down to 1000 m. A strong velocity northerly wind will be blowing intermittently. In the furthestmost southern regions, it will be quite sunny. On Wednesday, weather conditions will be variable, accompanied by showers and bright intervals in western and southern regions in particular. The danger of wet snow avalanches will continue to decrease substantially. The danger of dry avalanches will increase somewhat on Tuesday, particularly on the northern Alpine Ridge.

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>

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

Feedback information:

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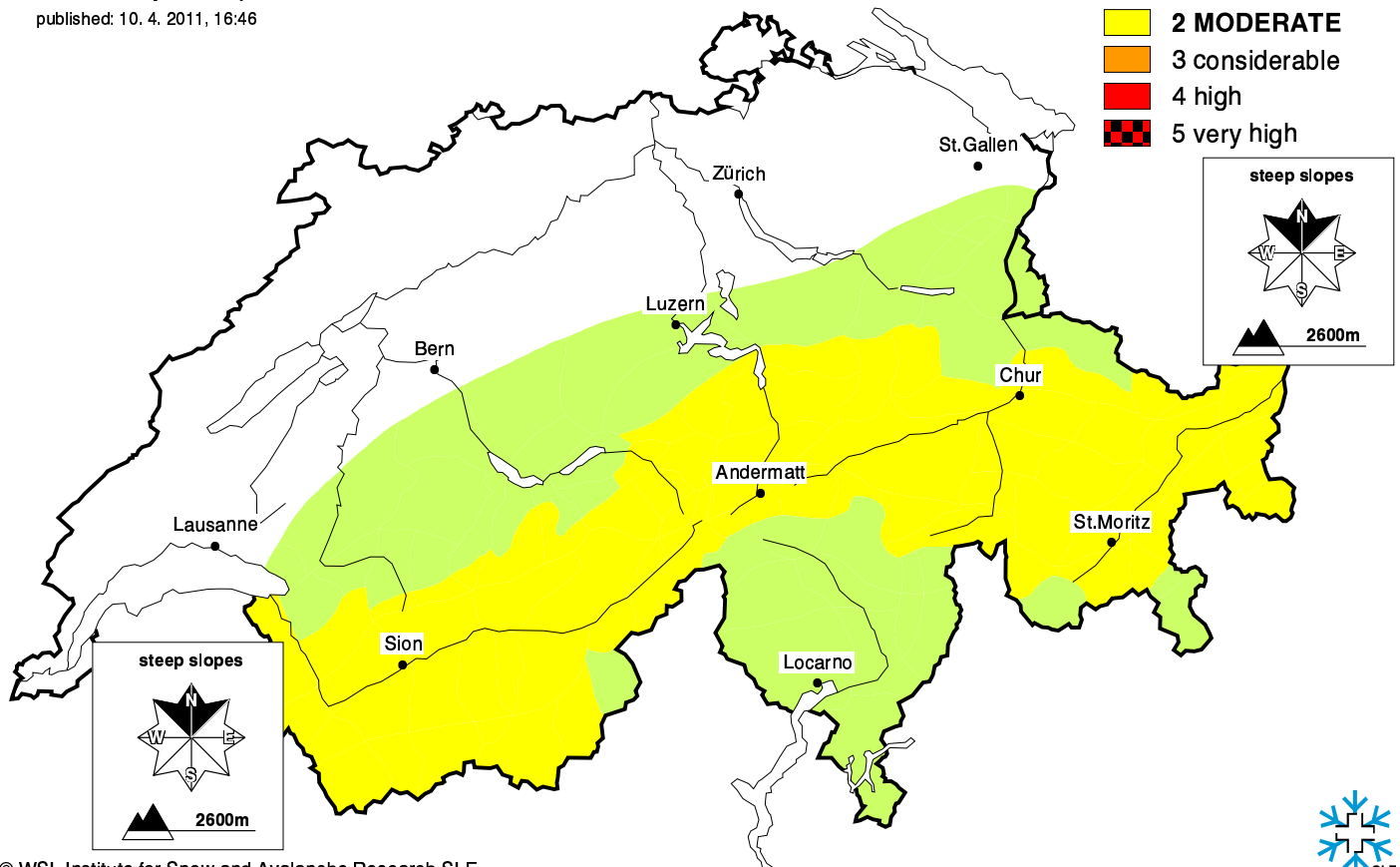
Danger forecast for dry snow avalanches

for Monday, 11. April 2011

published: 10. 4. 2011, 16:46

Danger level

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



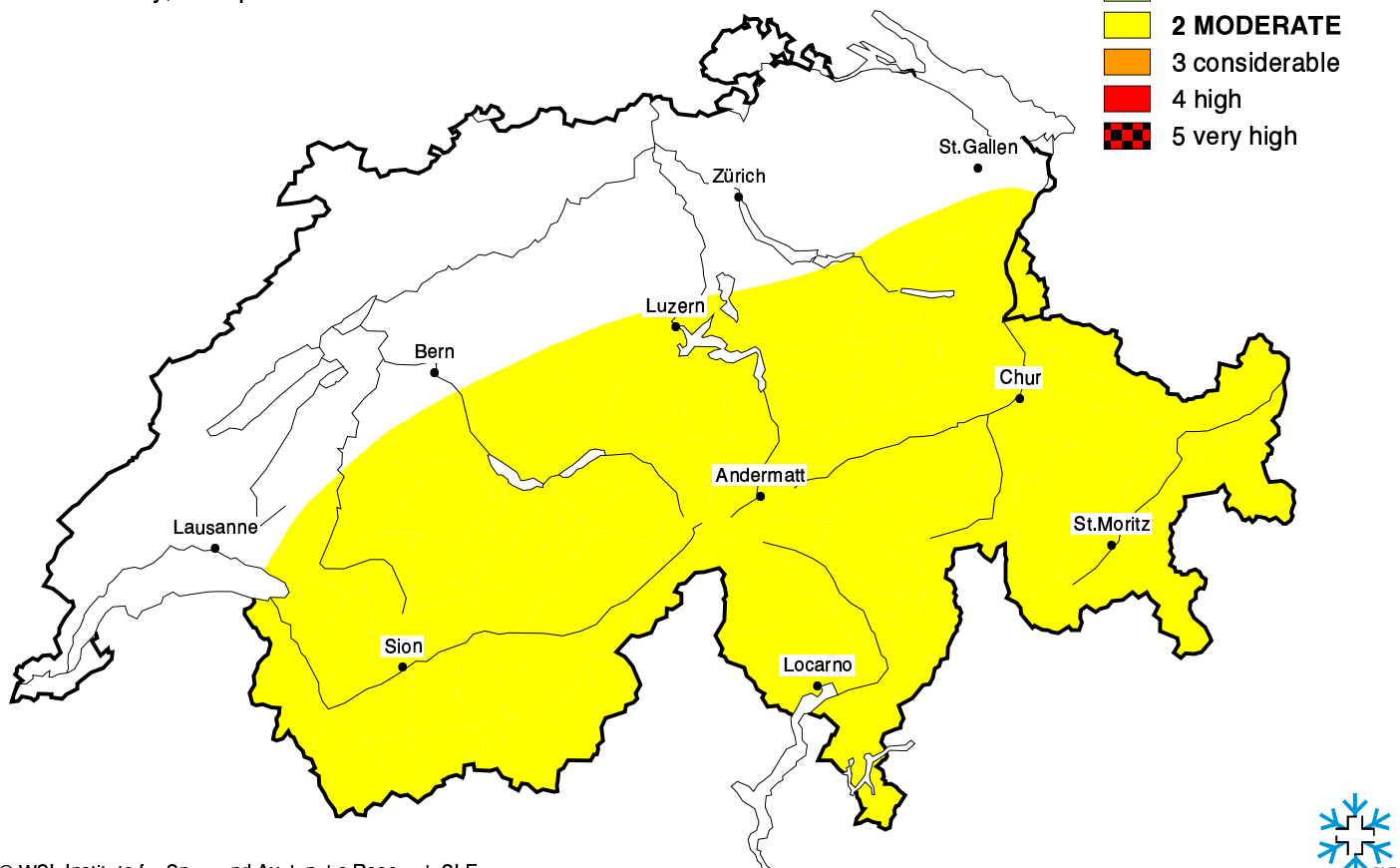
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Danger of wet snow avalanches in the course of the day

for Monday, 11. April 2011

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- 1 low
- 2 MODERATE
- 3 considerable
- 4 high
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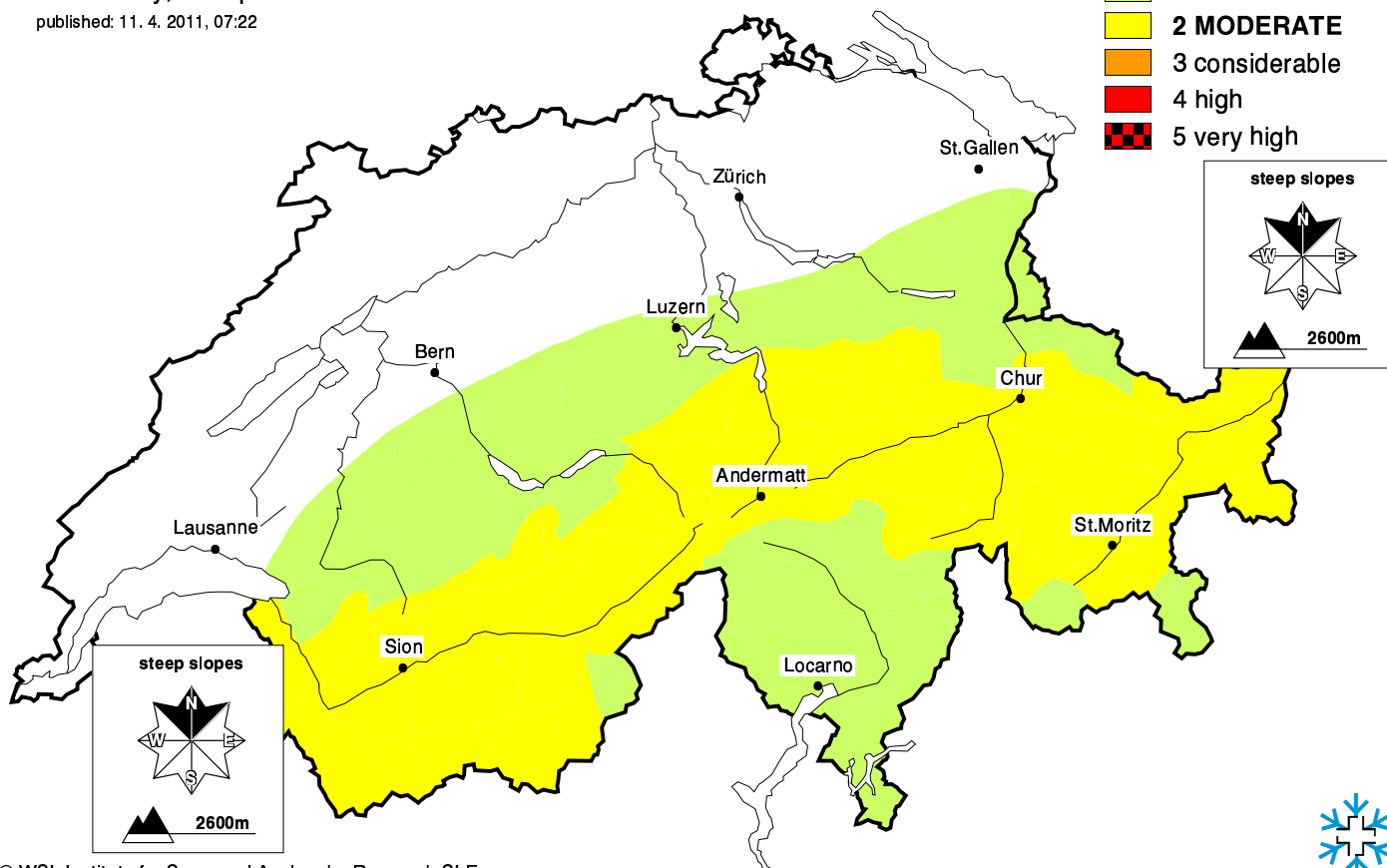
Danger forecast for dry snow avalanches

for Monday, 11. April 2011

published: 11. 4. 2011, 07:22

Danger level

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



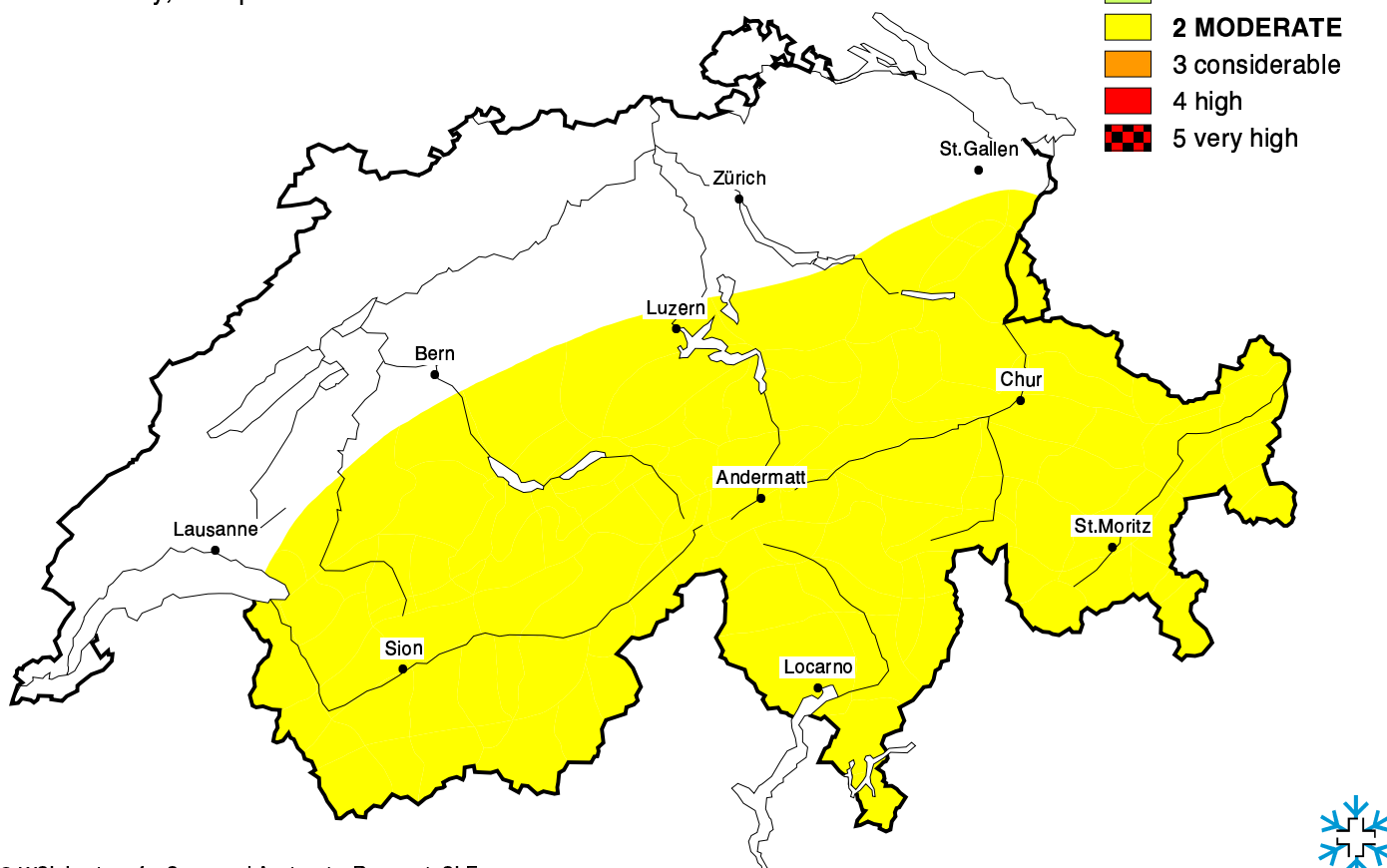
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