

National avalanche bulletin no. 51

for Sunday, 15 January 2012

issue date 14.1.2012, 18:30 hours

Full depth snowslides on east, south and west facing slopes, otherwise generally favourable avalanche situation

Current conditions

On Saturday it was sunny in the Swiss Alps. The midday temperatures at 2000 m were minus 4 degrees in western and southern regions and minus 7 degrees in eastern regions. The wind was blowing at predominantly moderate velocity during the night, in the central and eastern parts of the Main Alpine Ridge at strong velocity, from northerly directions. In some areas, the old snow was transported. During the day of Saturday, the wind blew at light to moderate strength from the northeast.

Particularly on the Main Alpine Ridge and in the Engadine on shady slopes above approximately 2500 m, there are snowpack layers near the ground which are faceted and weakly bonded. Elsewhere, the snow layering is favourable widespread. Far and wide the snowpack is quite deep, which has brought about the release of numerous snowslides below about 2500 m.

Short-term development

On Sunday it will be sunny in the mountains. The midday temperatures at 2000 m in western and southern regions will be minus 4 degrees and in eastern regions minus 7 degrees. The northeasterly wind will be blowing at light to moderate velocity.

Avalanche danger forecast for Sunday

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

Moderate avalanche danger (Level 2)

The avalanche prone locations are to be found on steep slopes above approximately 2200 m; in the Valais not including Chablais the danger zones are above approximately 2400 m. On the Main Alpine Ridge from Furka Pass into Avers, in northern and central Ticino, in the Engadine and in the southern valleys of Grisons, the avalanche prone locations are to be found in all aspects; in the remaining regions of this danger level, they are found particularly in northwestern to northern to southeastern aspects.

In isolated cases, avalanches can be triggered in the old snowpack. This applies particularly to the Main Alpine Ridge; or to cases of large additional loading. More than anywhere else, caution is urged in transition areas from shallow to deep snow, such as at the entry to gullies and bowls. In addition, freshly drifted snow masses are still trigger sensitive in some places. On the Main Alpine Ridge east of Furka Pass and in the Engadine, such snowdrift accumulations are medium sized, elsewhere they are rather small.

Western and central Prealps:

Low avalanche danger (Level 1)

Freshly formed snowdrift accumulations are small sized, but easily triggerable from place to place. They should be evaluated with great care and the danger of a fall should be taken into consideration.

All regions except the southern flank of the Alps: Full depth snowslides which may attain medium size are possible below approximately 2500 m at any and all times. This applies in particular on steep, grassy slopes and road embankments in eastern, southern and western aspects. Exposed sections of transportation routes may be placed at risk. Caution is urged below glide cracks.

Trend for Monday and Tuesday

On both days it is expected to be sunny in the mountains. The danger of dry avalanches will gradually subside. Full depth snowslides continue to be possible.

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. 0.90/call and min)

Feedback information:

Email: lwp@slf.ch

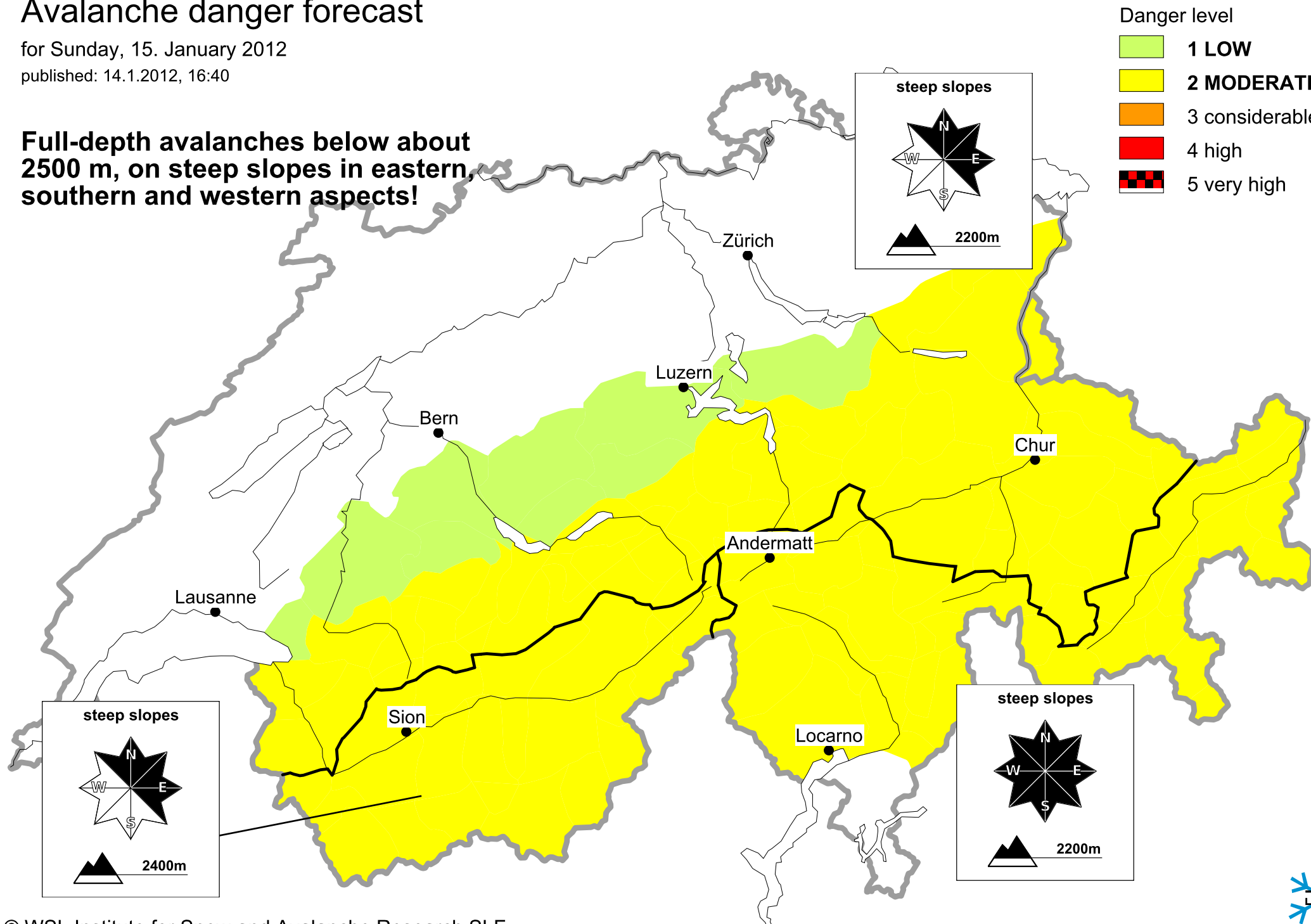
Free phone/fax: 0800 800 187 / 88

Avalanche danger forecast

for Sunday, 15. January 2012

published: 14.1.2012, 16:40

Full-depth avalanches below about 2500 m, on steep slopes in eastern, southern and western aspects!








Avalanche danger forecast

for Sunday, 15. January 2012

published: 15.1.2012, 07:43

Full-depth avalanches below about 2500 m, on steep slopes in eastern, southern and western aspects!

Danger level

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

