

# National avalanche bulletin no. 102

for Tuesday, 6 March 2012

issue date 5.3.2012, 18:30 hours

## *Considerable avalanche danger in some regions*

### Current conditions

From Sunday evening until Monday evening, snow fell over a wide area. The snowfall level dropped from 1600 m to approximately 600 m. From Sunday evening until Monday evening, the following amounts of snow fell above approximately 2000 m: 30 to 50 cm on the main Alpine ridge from the Furka Pass to the Maloja Pass and to the south; 20 to 30 cm in the central and eastern parts of the northern flank of the Alps, northern and central Grisons, and northern Engadine; 10 to 20 cm in the other regions. Midday temperatures at 2000 m fell to minus 10 degrees in the north and minus 7 degrees in the south. The wind was mostly moderate from the northwest and transported the fresh snow.

Underneath the fresh snow, the snowpack is moist all the way through below approximately 2500 m on steep south facing slopes and 1600 m on north facing slopes. The moist snow layers are freezing only slowly underneath the fresh snow.

### Short-term development

On Monday night, 5 to 10 cm of snow will fall from southern Valais to Ticino and Upper Engadine, but less will fall elsewhere. In the inneralpine regions in particular, bright spells will become more prevalent during the day. Midday temperatures at 2000 m will be about minus 8 degrees in the north and minus 5 degrees in the south. The wind will be light to moderate from the east.

### Avalanche danger forecast for Tuesday

Northern Alpine ridge from Titlis to Liechtenstein; Urseren; Grisons excluding the Val Poschiavo and Münstertal regions; Ticino:

#### *Considerable avalanche danger (level 3)*

In the central part of the southern flank of the Alps, the avalanche prone locations are to be found on steep slopes of all aspects above approximately 2000 m. Even a single person can release fresh snow and snow drift accumulations as avalanches. Isolated natural avalanches can occur. In the other regions subject to this danger level, the avalanche prone locations are to be found, in particular, adjacent to the ridge line in all aspects above approximately 2200 m. Fresh snow drift accumulations can be released easily and are to be assessed critically.

In all the regions subject to this danger level, experience in the assessment of avalanche danger is required by those venturing off piste.

Prealps; northern flank of the Alps from Chablais to Titlis; Valais; Val Poschiavo; Münstertal:

#### *Moderate avalanche danger (level 2)*

The avalanche prone locations are to be found, in particular, on wind-loaded slopes of all aspects. These locations are to be found above approximately 2000 m in the Prealps and above approximately 2200 m in the other regions. Fresh snow drift accumulations can easily be released as avalanches in some cases. The released quantities of snow are, however, mostly small. Careful route selection is recommended.

On north facing steep slopes in particular, isolated avalanches can be released in the upper layers of the old snowpack, especially by large additional loads

In addition, a danger of full-depth avalanches exists in all regions, in particular on northeast to south to northwest facing steep slopes below approximately 2600 m. Full-depth avalanches can occur at any time of day or night. They can reach medium size and endanger exposed transportation routes.

In the regions where a lot of fresh snow has fallen, wet loose snow avalanches are to be expected on steep south facing slopes in view of the solar radiation.

### Trend for Wednesday and Thursday

Wednesday will be mostly sunny. On Thursday, snow will fall in the north. In the south, the northerly wind will be accompanied by sunny spells. The danger of dry avalanches will decrease on Wednesday before increasing again on Thursday. The danger of full-depth avalanches will change very little.

#### 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

**Internet:** <http://www.slf.ch>

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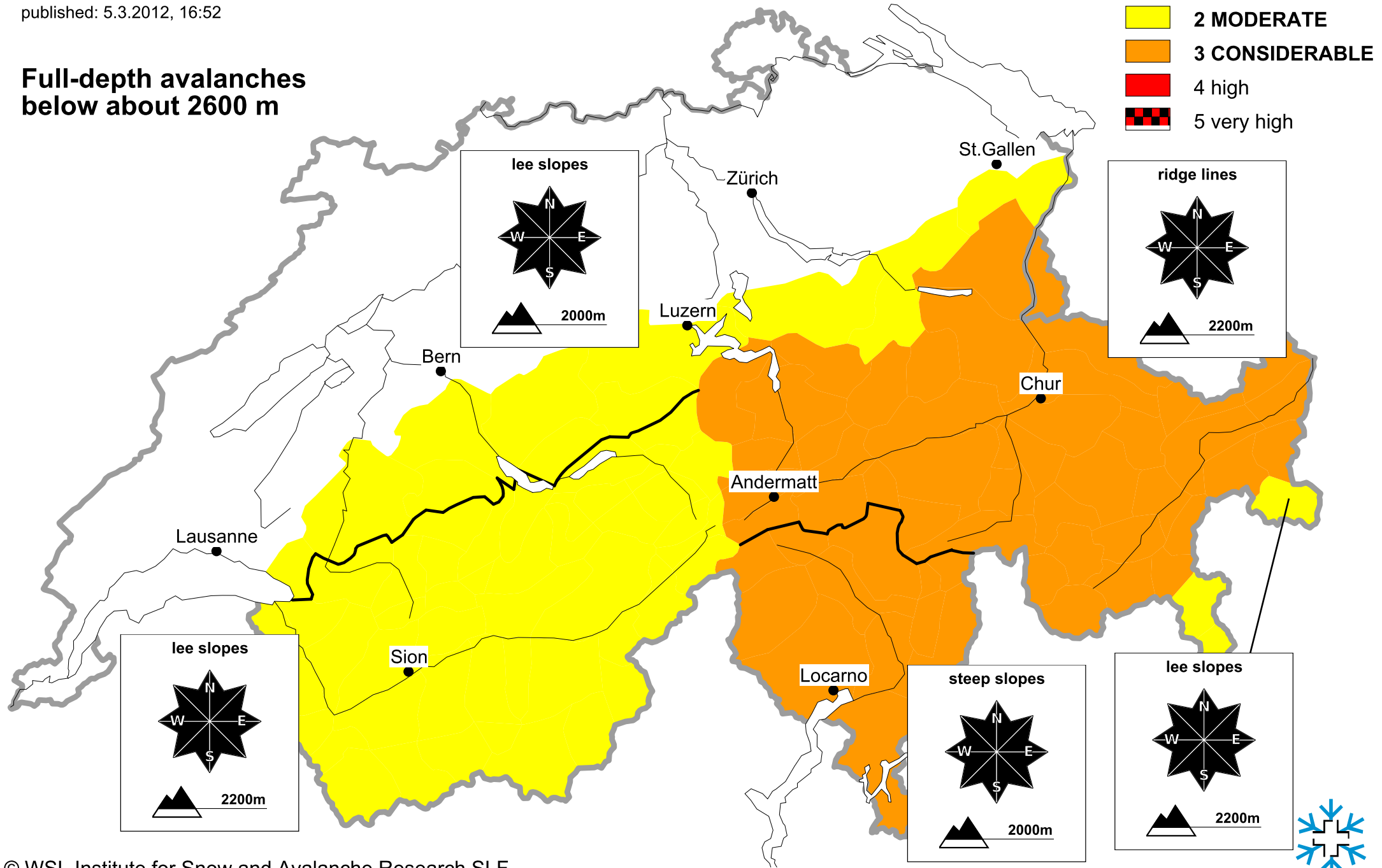
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# Danger forecast for dry snow avalanches

for Tuesday, 6. March 2012

published: 5.3.2012, 16:52

**Full-depth avalanches  
below about 2600 m**



# Avalanche danger forecast

for Tuesday, 6. March 2012

published: 6.3.2012, 07:50

