Avalanche bulletin through Sunday, 10 November 2019

8.11.2019. 17:25

Considerable avalanche danger from place to place

Edition: 8.11.2019, 17:00 / Next update: 10.11.2019, 18:00

Avalanche danger

Main Alpine Ridge from Monte Rosa into the Lower Engadine and southwards therefrom, not including Sotto Ceneri; Aletsch and Schreckhorn regions, Hasli Valleys, Meiental

Considerable avalanche danger (level 3) above approximately 2400 m. On Saturday the avalanche prone locations are to be found in all aspects, on Sunday particularly still in west-facing, north-facing and east-facing aspects. The fresh fallen snow can be triggered even by one single winter sports participant in some places. Avalanches can reach medium size, in high alpine regions they can attain large size in isolated cases. On Saturday night, snowdrift accumulations will be generated on north-facing slopes more than anywhere else. These snowdrifts tend to be small-sized, but are prone to triggering. Skiing tours in outlying terrain require experience in the assessment of avalanche dangers on-site. On very steep grass-covered slopes and rock slabs, small and medium-sized gliding snow avalanches can be expected.

Western and northern parts of Lower Valais, Bex-Villars region

Fresh snow and freshly generated snowdrifts of the last few days are still prone to triggering in some places. Particularly above approximately 2200 m, winter sports participants can trigger avalanches which in places can grow to medium size. On Saturday, the avalanche prone locations are to be found in all aspects, on Sunday particularly still in western to northern to eastern aspects.

On very steep grass-covered slopes, small and medium-sized gliding snow avalanches can be expected.

Remaining regions of the Swiss Alps

Mountain climbers and winter sports participants can trigger avalanches in some places, particularly in gullies, bowls and in the glaciated zones of the high alpine regions. The avalanches tend to remain relatively small-sized. In high alpine regions, the avalanche prone locations occur more frequently and the releases attain medium size in some places. On very steep grass-covered slopes, gliding snow slides can be expected.



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Snow and weather

Snow situation

The fresh snow was deposited amidst very little wind and is loosely packed over widespread areas. As a result of the brisk winds which are rising, it could be transported at high altitudes during Saturday night.

Above approximately 2400 m winter conditions prevail in many places, including a quite cohesive, area-wide, layered snowpack. The greatest amounts of snow are found in the furthermost western part and northern part of the Lower Valais, as well as in the high alpine zones of the Upper Valais sector of the Main Alpine Ridge, of the Gotthard region and of the Bernina region.

Weather review to Friday, 8 November 2019

Skies were heavily overcast. There was precipitation over widespread areas, some of which was intensive in parts of the southern regions and of Central Switzerland. The snowfall level to start with lay at approximately 1500 m in all regions, subsequently dropped on the northern flank of the Alps down to approximately 1000 m. The wind prevailed predominantly from southerly directions, blowing at light to moderate strength.

Between Thursday and the end of this round of precipitation on Friday evening, the following amounts of fresh snow were registered above approximately 2000 m:

- · from the Concordia region over the Hasli Valleys into Meiental, Gotthard region, Goms, upper valleys of Maggia: 50 to 60 cm.
- furthermost western part of Lower Valais, remaining regions of the eastern Bernese Oberland, of the central sector of the northern flank of the Alps and of the southern flank of the Alps, Main Alpine Ridge from Lukmanier Pass as far as Bernina Pass: 30 to 50 cm;
- · in the other regions of Switzerland, 20 to 30 cm over widespread areas; from the eastern sector of the northern flank of the Alps over northern Grisons as far as the Silvretta, less.

Weather outlook through Sunday, 10 November 2019

On Saturday in the Prealps and in the furthermost eastern regions, skies will still be overcast in the early morning hours, in the other regions of Switzerland it will be quite sunny. On Sunday in the northern regions, it will be rather sunny, in the southern regions variably cloudy, but it will remain dry for the most part. The temperature at 2000 m at midday will be approximately -4 °C on both days. The wind will be blowing at only light strength to start with, on Sunday it will be blowing at moderate velocity in the heights, from southerly directions.

Outlook

On Monday in the northern regions it will be sunny, in the southern regions skies will be overcast, accompanied by a small amount of snowfall above approximately 1300 m. The avalanche danger will incrementally decrease in the northern regions, in the southern regions the danger levels are not expected to change significantly.

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