

A quick winter solution for hazard mitigation in the deposition area – application in the Aosta Valley – NW Italian Alps

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The numerous avalanche events that hit the Aosta Valley, in the North-west of the Italian Alps, in the last two winter seasons have highlighted the hazard of recurrent avalanches on the same site. Having the deposition area occupied by the snow deposit of the first event could become a serious problem to manage in case of further avalanches. The dynamics of deposition could change severely and engage a wider area. A possible solution, “ready, steady, go”, consists in the modelling the previous deposit by using snowmobiles. This solution was followed three times during the last winter seasons and gave excellent results in terms of time and money involved.