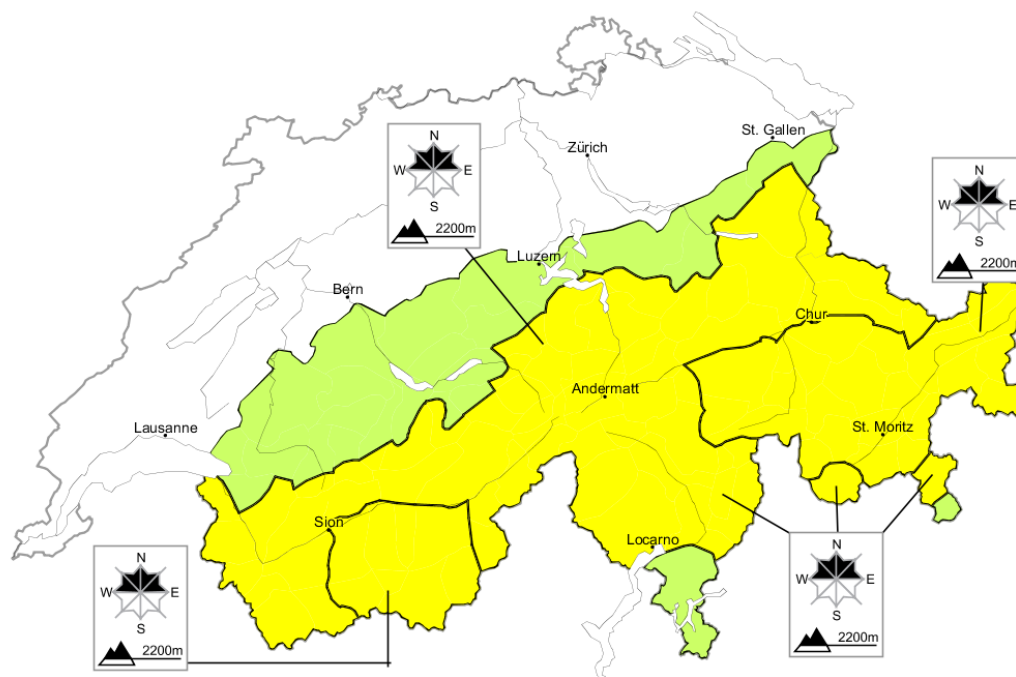


Fresh snow drifts require caution. Increase in avalanche danger as the day progresses

Edition: 5.3.2013, 08:00 / Next update: 5.3.2013, 17:00

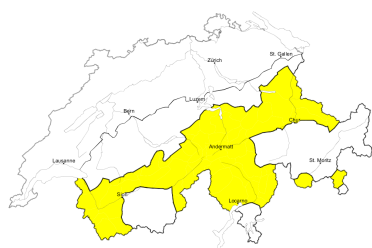
Dry avalanches

updated on 5.3.2013, 08:00



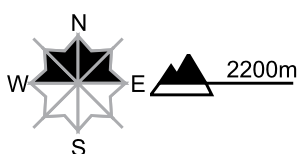
Dry, Region A

Level 2, moderate



Snow drifts

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

As a consequence of the strong wind snow drift accumulations will form. These are mostly small but can in some cases be released easily. They are to be found in particular adjacent to the ridge line and in gullies and bowls. The clearly visible snow drift accumulations are to be bypassed as far as possible.

Additional danger: Wet avalanches as day progresses (see 2nd map)

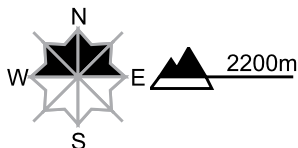
Dry, Region B

Level 2, moderate



Snow drifts, old snow

Avalanche prone locations



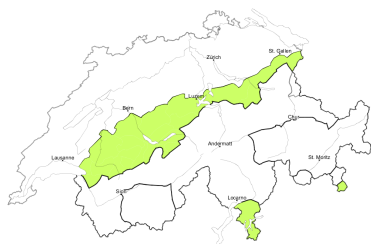
Danger description

As a consequence of the sometimes strong wind snow drift accumulations will form. These are mostly small but can in some cases be released easily. They are to be found in particular adjacent to the ridge line and in gullies and bowls. The clearly visible snow drift accumulations are to be bypassed as far as possible. In addition avalanches can in isolated cases be released in deep layers. These avalanche prone locations are rare but barely recognisable, even to the trained eye. Caution is to be exercised in particular on little-used, rather lightly snow-covered slopes. Careful route selection is advisable.

Additional danger: Wet avalanches as day progresses (see 2nd map)

Dry, Region C

Level 1, low



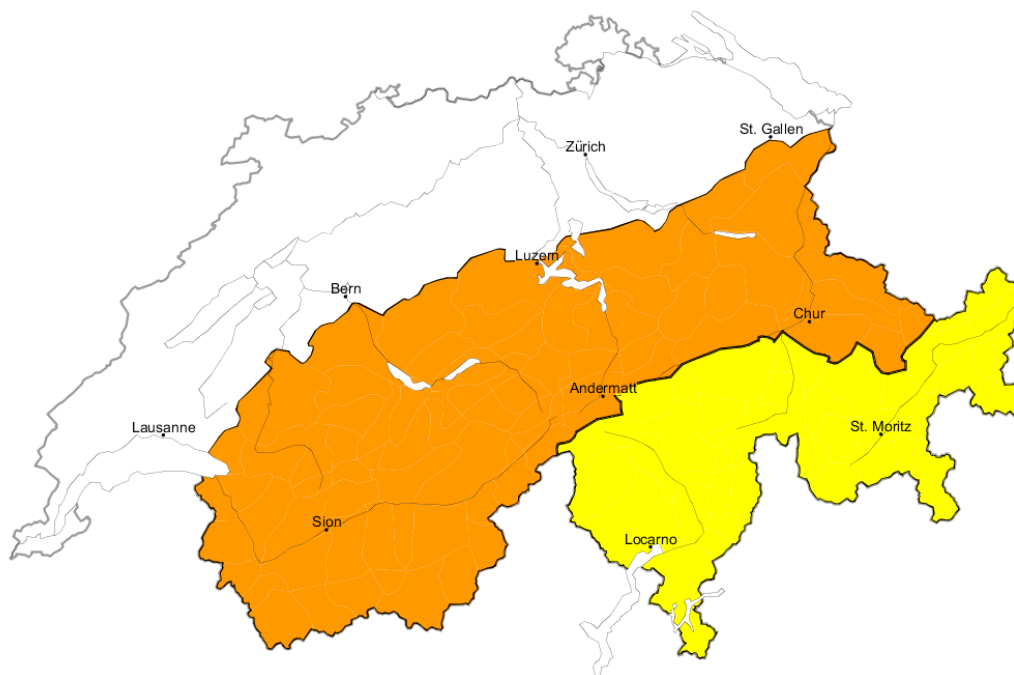
Snow drifts, old snow

Avalanches can in isolated cases be released in near-surface layers. The avalanche prone locations are to be found especially adjacent to the ridge line and in gullies and bowls. The fresh snow drift accumulations are mostly very small but in some cases prone to triggering. Restraint should be exercised in view of the danger of being buried, but in particular because avalanches can sweep people along and give rise to falls.

Additional danger: Wet avalanches as day progresses (see 2nd map)

Wet avalanches as day progresses

updated on 5.3.2013, 08:00



Wet, Region A

Level 3, considerable



Wet avalanches as day progresses

Steep west, south and east facing slopes: As the day progresses full-depth and wet avalanches are to be expected below approximately 2600 m. Caution is to be exercised in areas with glide cracks. Backcountry tours and off-piste skiing should be concluded timely.

Additional danger: Dry avalanches (see 1st map)

Wet, Region B

Level 2, moderate



Wet avalanches as day progresses

As the day progresses full-depth and wet avalanches are to be expected below approximately 2400 m. This applies in particular on steep west, south and east facing slopes. Areas with glide cracks are to be avoided as far as possible.

Additional danger: Dry avalanches (see 1st map)

Snowpack and weather

updated on 4.3.2013, 17:00

Snowpack

In particular in the inneralpine regions of Valais, and in central Grisons, Engadine and Val Müstair, middle and deep layers of the snowpack are faceted and weak in some cases. Here, isolated avalanches can be released in deep layers of the snowpack. These conditions are to be found, in particular, in very steep, little used locations with shallow snow cover. In the other regions, the bonding of the snowpack is mostly favourable.

Full-depth avalanches have been observed on steep, smooth sunny slopes below approximately 2600 m, in particular on the northern flank of the Alps and in Valais and northern and central Grisons. Very steep south facing slopes are increasingly moist all the way through below approximately 2600 m. After clear nights, the surface on these slopes is strong up to around 3000 m. On shady slopes, the snow is loosely bonded snow in some cases and is capable of being transported.

Observed weather on Monday, 4.3.2013

In the mountains it was sunny with very good visibility over a long distance.

Fresh snow

-

Temperature

At midday at 2000 m: between +3 °C in the west and +1 °C in the east and south

Wind

On Sunday night the wind was light. It freshened during the day. Especially at elevated altitudes and in the northern regions exposed to the foehn, the wind was moderate to strong at times.

Weather forecast until Tuesday, 5.3.2013

After a mostly clear night, the weather will remain generally sunny in the morning. In the afternoon, cloud will build up from the south. In the evening, precipitation will commence in the south.

Fresh snow

-

Temperature

At midday at 2000 m: between +3 °C in the north and 0 °C in the south

Wind

Moderate to strong from the south, but a storm force foehn wind in the northern Alpine valleys

Outlook until Thursday, 7.3.2013

Each of the next two days will be very cloudy in the south, and snow will fall. In the north it will be cloudy with bright intervals. The southerly wind will remain strong on Wednesday in particular, before easing. It will remain mild. On Wednesday, the avalanche danger may increase a little further in some regions.