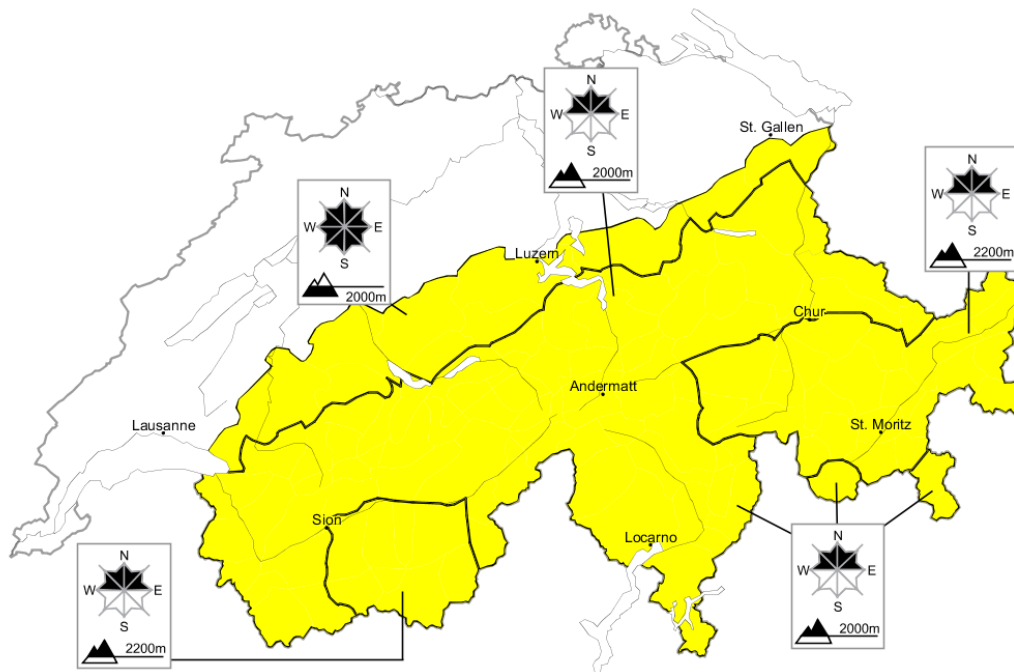


Moderate avalanche danger will prevail

Edition: 8.3.2013, 08:00 / Next update: 8.3.2013, 17:00

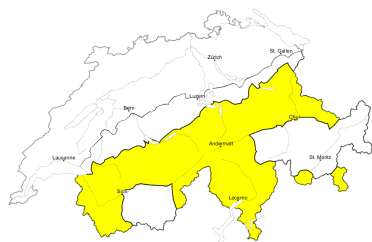
Avalanche danger

updated on 8.3.2013, 08:00



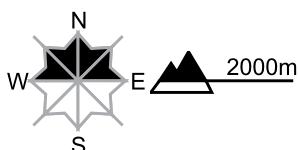
Region A

Level 2, moderate



Snow drifts

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

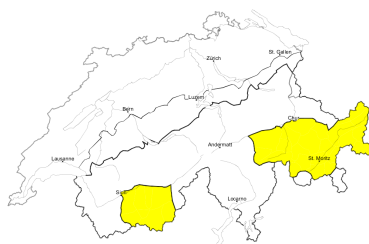
The hard snow drift accumulations of the last few days represent the main danger. These are mostly small and can be released by large loads in particular. They are to be found in particular in gullies and bowls, and behind abrupt changes in the terrain. The clearly visible snow drift accumulations are to be bypassed as far as possible.

Wet avalanches as day progresses, Full-depth avalanches

Northern flank of the Alps, Valais, northern and central Grisons: As the day progresses full-depth and wet avalanches are possible. This applies on south facing slopes below approximately 2400 m and on north facing slopes below approximately 2000 m. Areas with glide cracks are to be avoided as far as possible.

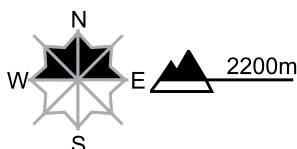
Region B

Level 2, moderate



Snow drifts, old snow

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

The hard snow drift accumulations of the last few days can be released, especially by large additional loads. The snow drift accumulations are mostly small. They are to be found in particular adjacent to the ridge line and in gullies and bowls. Avalanches can release deeper layers of the snowpack. Careful route selection is advisable. The clearly visible snow drift accumulations are to be bypassed as far as possible.

Wet avalanches as day progresses, Full-depth avalanches

As the day progresses full-depth and wet avalanches are possible. This applies on south facing slopes below approximately 2400 m and on north facing slopes below approximately 2000 m. Areas with glide cracks are to be avoided as far as possible.

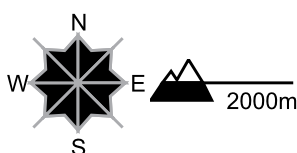
Region C

Level 2, moderate



Wet avalanches as day progresses, Full-depth avalanches

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

As the day progresses full-depth and wet avalanches are possible. This applies in all aspects. Areas with glide cracks are to be avoided as far as possible.

Old snow

Individual avalanche prone locations for dry avalanches are to be found especially adjacent to the ridge line and in gullies and bowls. 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.

Snowpack and weather

updated on 7.3.2013, 17:00

Snowpack

The wind-hardened, predominantly small sized snowdrift accumulations from the recent bout of foehn winds are still triggerable, particularly from place to place on steep, north facing slopes. In the inneralpine regions of the Valais, in central Grisons, in the Engadine and in Val Müstair, intermediate and more deeply embedded layers inside the snow cover are to some extent faceted and weak. In those regions, avalanches which are released on the uppermost surface can break through down to layers closer to the ground. In the remaining regions the snowpack is favourably structured for the most part.

The uppermost surface of the snowpack has been heavily impacted by winds and by the sun far and wide and is now hardened. Only on wind protected northern slopes is there still powder snow in places. Beneath the treeline, the surface softens up over the course of the day.

Isolated full depth snowslides have been released on the northern flank of the Alps, in the Valais and in northern and central Grisons more than anywhere else, on steep, smooth and sun-drenched slopes below about 2400 m. Very steep south facing slopes below about 2600 m are thoroughly wet.

Observed weather on Thursday, 7.3.2013

In northern and eastern regions it was intermittently bright, elsewhere skies were heavily overcast in general. In southern regions there was light snowfall above approximately 1400 m.

Fresh snow

Between Wednesday evening and Thursday evening on the southern flank of the Alps, 5 to 15 cm; elsewhere it was predominantly dry.

Temperature

At midday at 2000 m, in northern regions +2°C, in southern regions -1°C

Wind

During the night on the northern Alpine Ridge and in the foehn exposed regions, moderate to strong velocity, elsewhere light to moderate strength southerly winds

Weather forecast until Friday, 8.3.2013

In northern regions in particular, skies will be partially clear. During the early morning hours, cloud will move in from the west. In western and southern regions a small amount of snowfall is anticipated above approximately 1500 m.

Fresh snow

In western and in southern regions, just a few centimeters

Temperature

At midday at 2000 m, in northern regions +1°C, in southern regions -1°C

Wind

Light to moderate southwesterly winds

Outlook until Sunday, 10.3.2013

Skies will be variably cloudy. Intermittent light snowfall is anticipated above approximately 1500 m. The danger of dry avalanches is expected to diminish slightly. Full depth snowslides continue to be possible.