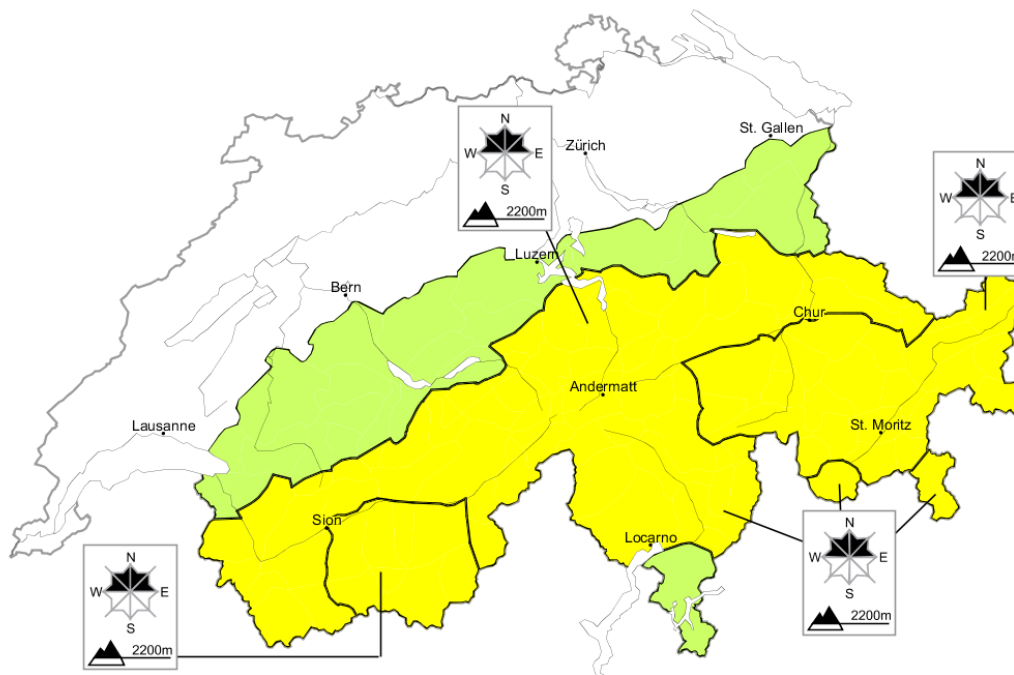


Increase in danger of wet and full-depth avalanches from late morning

Edition: 9.3.2013, 08:00 / Next update: 9.3.2013, 17:00

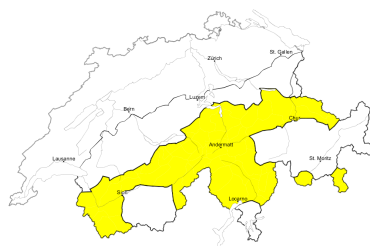
Dry avalanches

updated on 9.3.2013, 08:00



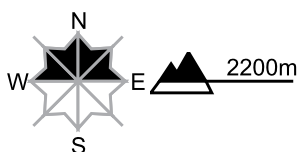
Dry, Region A

Level 2, moderate



Snow drifts

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

The somewhat older snow drift accumulations 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.

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

Danger levels

1 low

2 moderate

3 consider.

4 high

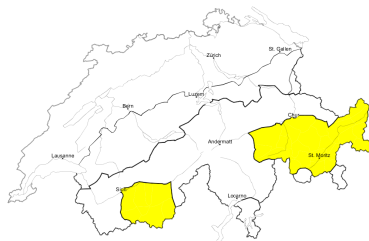
5 very high



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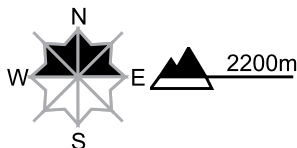
Dry, Region B

Level 2, moderate



Snow drifts, old snow

Avalanche prone locations



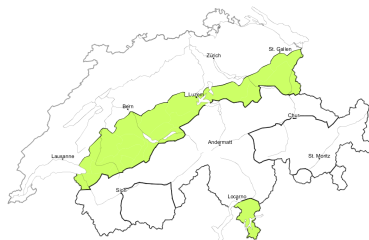
Danger description

The somewhat older snow drift accumulations are mostly small and can be released by large loads in particular. 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.

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

Dry, Region C

Level 1, low



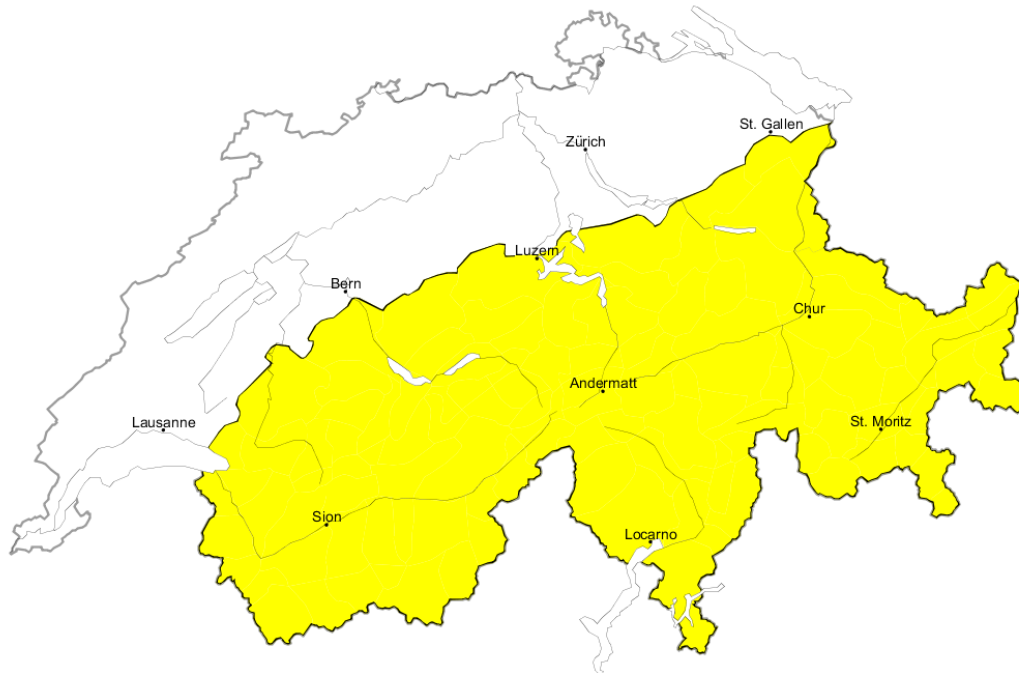
Snow drifts

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.

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

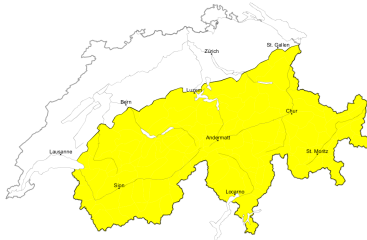
Wet avalanches as day progresses

updated on 9.3.2013, 08:00



Wet

Level 2, moderate



Wet avalanches as day progresses

The surface of the snowpack cooled hardly at all during the overcast night and will already be soft in the early morning, especially below approximately 1800 m. The danger of full-depth and wet avalanches will already increase in the late morning. Full-depth and wet avalanches are to be expected. 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. Backcountry tours and ascents to alpine cabins should be concluded timely.

Additional danger: Dry avalanches (see 1st map)

Danger levels

1 low

2 moderate

3 consider.

4 high

5 very high



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Snowpack and weather

updated on 8.3.2013, 17:00

Snowpack

The wind-hardened, predominantly small sized snowdrift accumulations from the recent bout of foehn winds are still triggerable in isolated cases, particularly from spot to spot 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.

Far and wide the snowpack surface is heavily impacted by wind and sun, and wind-hardened. During the course of the day, it tends to soften up; the entire snow cover thereby forfeits its firmness.

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 Friday, 8.3.2013

Following a night of predominantly clear skies, cloud moved in from the west. In southern regions skies were heavily overcast and intermittently there was light snowfall.

Fresh snow

On the southern flank of the Alps above 1500 m, just a few centimeters

Temperature

At midday at 2000 m, +1°C

Wind

Light to moderate velocity southerly winds

Weather forecast until Saturday, 9.3.2013

In particular during the early part of the night, light snowfall above approximately 1600 m is anticipated in eastern regions more than anywhere else. In western regions the nocturnal skies will be clear, in eastern regions partially overcast. New cloud is expected to move in from the west as early as during the morning hours. In eastern regions it will be quite sunny.

Fresh snow

Just a few centimeters

Temperature

At midday at 2000 m, -1°C

Wind

Light to moderate velocity southwesterly to westerly winds

Outlook until Monday, 11.3.2013

Amidst variable weather conditions, a small amount of intermittent snowfall is expected. It will turn somewhat colder. The danger of dry avalanches will incrementally diminish. Wet avalanches and full depth snowslides continue to be possible, particularly during the course of the day.