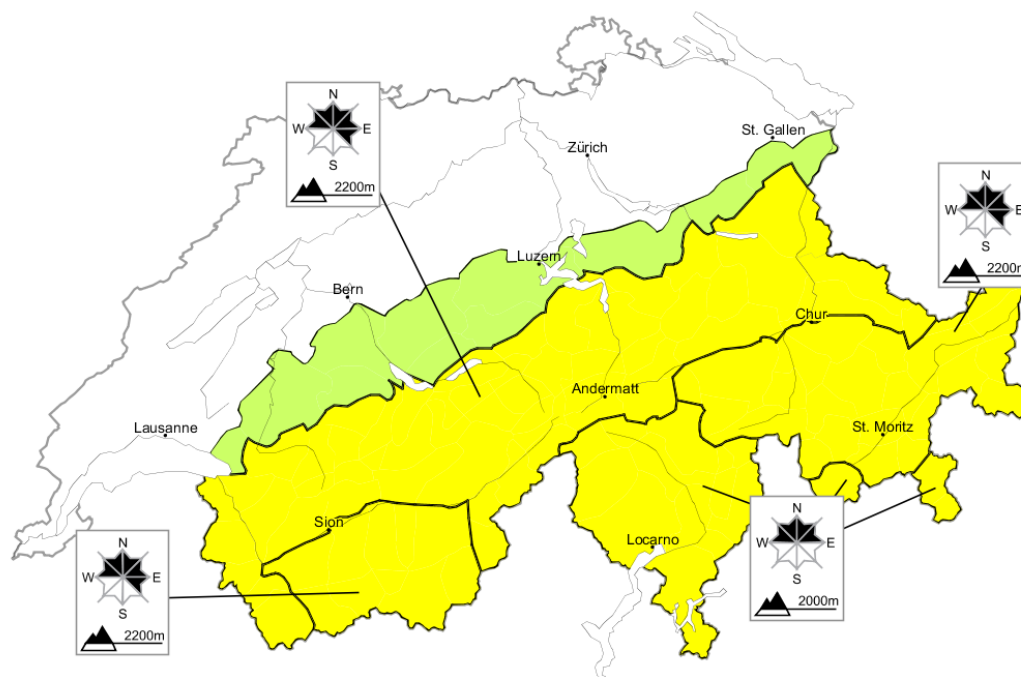


# Moderate avalanche danger will be encountered over a wide area. Weakly bonded old snow in Valais and in Grisons

Edition: 27.3.2013, 08:00 / Next update: 27.3.2013, 17:00

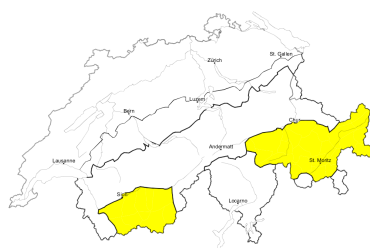
## Avalanche danger

updated on 27.3.2013, 08:00



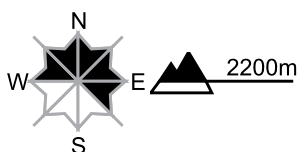
### Region A

### Level 2, moderate



#### Old snow, snow drifts

##### Avalanche prone locations



##### Danger description

The fresh snow and snow drift accumulations of the last few days are lying on top of a weakly bonded old snowpack. Avalanches can in isolated cases be released in deeper layers. As the day progresses as a consequence of warming during the day and solar radiation there will be only a slight increase in the danger of dry avalanches. Caution is to be exercised in particular in little used backcountry terrain. Whumpfung sounds and the formation of shooting cracks when stepping on the snowpack can indicate the danger. Ski touring calls for careful route selection.

#### Wet avalanches as day progresses

As the day progresses individual moist avalanches are possible. This applies in particular on east, south and west facing slopes below approximately 2400 m.

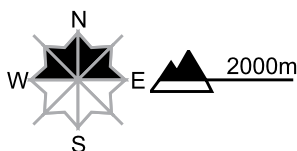
## Region B

## Level 2, moderate



### Snow drifts

#### Avalanche prone locations



#### Danger description

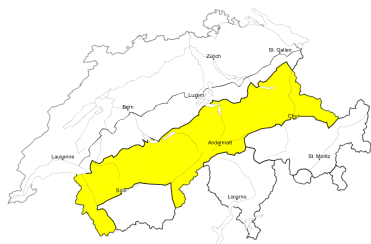
The avalanche prone locations are to be found in particular on west to north to east facing wind-loaded slopes and adjacent to the ridge line and in pass areas in all aspects. The snow drift accumulations are mostly small but in some cases prone to triggering. They are clearly recognisable to the trained eye. They are to be evaluated with care and prudence.

### Wet avalanches as day progresses

As the day progresses individual moist avalanches are possible. This applies in particular on east, south and west facing slopes below approximately 2400 m.

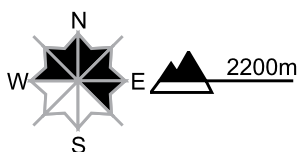
## Region C

## Level 2, moderate



### Snow drifts, old snow

#### Avalanche prone locations



#### Danger description

The avalanche conditions are generally favourable. Avalanches can in isolated cases be released in near-surface layers. This applies in particular adjacent to the ridge line and in gullies and bowls as well as in high Alpine regions. In the afternoon as a consequence of the moderate westerly wind there will be only a slight increase in the avalanche danger. Careful route selection is recommended.

### Wet avalanches as day progresses, Full-depth avalanches

As a consequence of solar radiation numerous loose snow slides are to be expected. As the day progresses individual full-depth avalanches are possible. This applies in particular on east, south and west facing slopes below approximately 2400 m.

## Region D

## Level 1, low



### Snow drifts

The fresh snow drift accumulations are very small but in some cases prone to triggering. They are to be found in particular adjacent to the ridge line and in pass areas. In the afternoon the snow drift accumulations will increase in size moderately. 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.

### Wet avalanches as day progresses, Full-depth avalanches

As a consequence of solar radiation numerous loose snow slides are to be expected. As the day progresses individual full-depth avalanches are possible.

## Snowpack and weather

updated on 26.3.2013, 17:00

### Snowpack

The fresh snow drift accumulations are mostly small and to be found adjacent to the ridge line in particular. They will increase in size during the day, especially at high altitude in the northern regions. They are prone to triggering. The bonding of the middle and deep layers of the snowpack is favourable over a wide area. In central Valais, central Grisons, Engadine and Val Müstair, however, weak faceted layers exist. In these regions in particular, avalanches can be released in fairly deep layers of the snowpack in some places. The avalanche prone locations are difficult to recognise and are to be found on north facing slopes and in little used terrain in particular.

### Observed weather on Tuesday, 26.3.2013

On Monday night, a little snow fell in many areas. During the day, the weather was mostly cloudy. Some snow fell at times. A few bright spells occurred in the Gotthard region.

#### Fresh snow

5 to 10 cm of snow fell in the central and eastern parts of the northern flank of the Alps and in northern Grisons. Except in the south, which remained dry, a few centimetres of snow fell over a wide area elsewhere.

#### Temperature

At midday at 2000 m: -5 °C

#### Wind

Moderate west to northwesterly in the east and south, but light elsewhere

### Weather forecast until Wednesday, 27.3.2013

In the mountains, the skies will gradually clear during the night and the day will be mostly sunny. In the Prealps, the low stratus-like cloud cover will persist in the morning.

#### Fresh snow

-

#### Temperature

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

#### Wind

Light to moderate from the west, increasing in strength in the afternoon

### Outlook until Friday, 29.3.2013

On Maundy Thursday, the weather will be bright at first, especially in the east. During the day, light snowfall will arrive from the northwest. In the north, the wind will be moderate to strong from the west. Some snow will fall at first on Good Friday, even at low altitudes, before the weather becomes dry for a time. The danger of dry avalanches will increase a little in the north in particular. Moist avalanches are unlikely to occur.