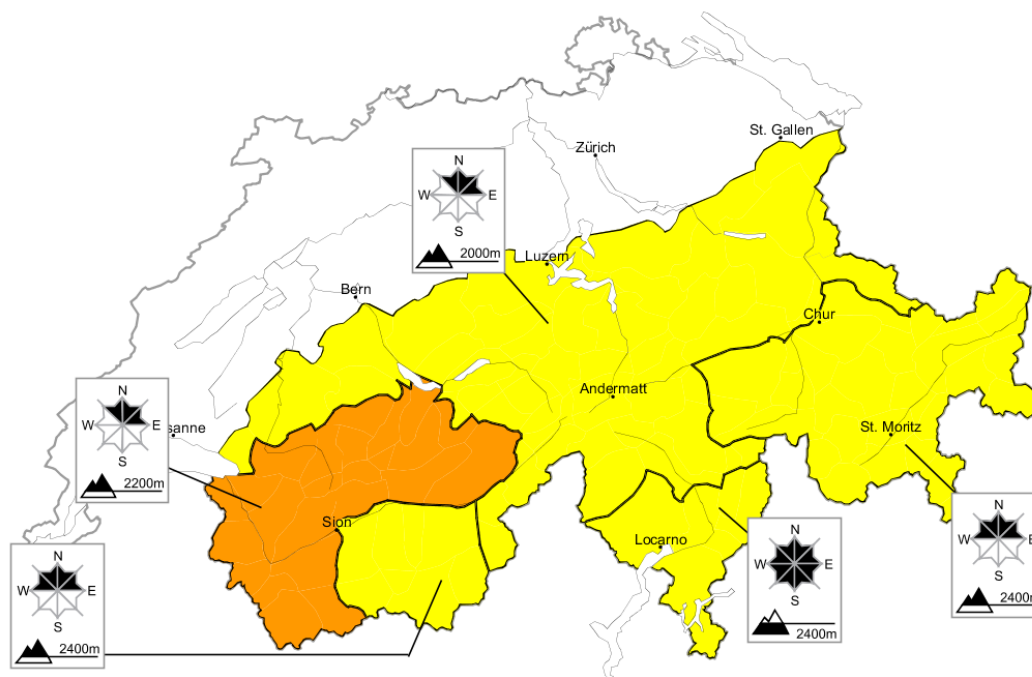


Considerable avalanche danger will be encountered in some regions

Edition: 11.4.2013, 08:00 / Next update: 11.4.2013, 17:00

Avalanche danger

updated on 11.4.2013, 08:00



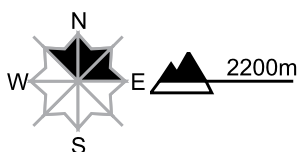
Region A

Level 3, considerable



Snow drifts

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

As a consequence of fresh snow and strong wind extensive snow drift accumulations have formed. These can be released easily. Avalanches can reach medium size. Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger.

Wet and full-depth avalanches

The surface of the snowpack cooled hardly at all during the overcast night, especially at low and intermediate altitudes. In all aspects more frequent small and, in isolated cases, medium-sized full-depth and wet avalanches are to be expected below approximately 2400 m.

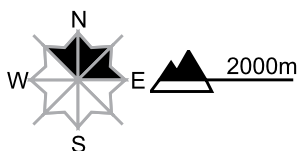
Region B

Level 2, moderate



Snow drifts

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

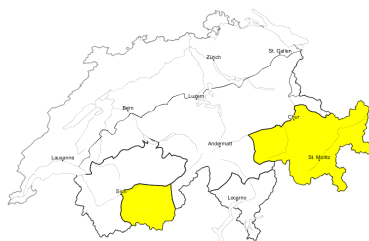
In the last two days snow drift accumulations have formed. These can in some cases be released easily. At elevated altitudes avalanche prone locations are more prevalent. The snow drift accumulations are to be bypassed. Ski touring and other off-piste activities, including snowshoe hiking, call for careful route selection.

Wet and full-depth avalanches

The surface of the snowpack cooled hardly at all during the overcast night, especially at low and intermediate altitudes. In all aspects more frequent small and, in isolated cases, medium-sized full-depth and wet avalanches are to be expected below approximately 2400 m.

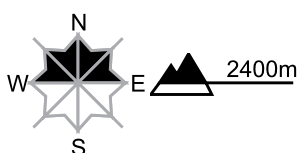
Region C

Level 2, moderate



Snow drifts, old snow

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

In the last two days sometimes avalanche prone snow drift accumulations have formed, in particular adjacent to the ridge line and in gullies and bowls. These are to be bypassed. At elevated altitudes the prevalence and size of the avalanche prone locations will increase. In addition avalanches can in isolated cases be released in deep layers. These avalanche prone locations are rather rare but barely recognisable, even to the trained eye.

Wet and full-depth avalanches

The surface of the snowpack cooled hardly at all during the overcast night, especially at low and intermediate altitudes. In all aspects more frequent small and, in isolated cases, medium-sized full-depth and wet avalanches are to be expected below approximately 2400 m.

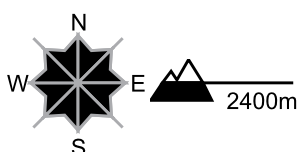
Region D

Level 2, moderate



Wet avalanches

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

The surface of the snowpack cooled hardly at all during the overcast night, especially at low and intermediate altitudes. More frequent mostly small wet avalanches are to be expected below approximately 2400 m.

Snowpack and weather

updated on 10.4.2013, 17:00

Snowpack

Snowdrift accumulations which are prone to triggering have formed during the last two days as a result of the southwesterly winds. In eastern and southern regions the drifted masses are predominantly small sized, in western regions they are larger, since the snowfall was heaviest there and the winds were blowing at higher velocity. The likelihood of triggering these snowdrift accumulations is gradually decreasing.

The intermediate and more deeply embedded layers inside the snow cover are favourably structured for the most part north of a line drawn from Rhone to Rhine as well as in the central sector of the southern flank of the Alps. In southern Valais and in the remaining regions of Grisons there are weak, faceted layers evident within the old snow cover. In those regions in particular, avalanches can be triggered deep inside the snowpack in isolated cases. These avalanche prone locations are to be found on north facing slopes, in places where the snow is relatively shallow and in seldom used terrain.

Observed weather on Wednesday, 10.4.2013

In western and northern regions the snowfall came to an end during the night. During the day today it was variably cloudy in northern regions, in southern regions it was generally sunny.

Fresh snow

Between Monday evening and Wednesday morning the following amounts of snowfall were registered above approximately 1600 m:

- Vaud and Fribourg Alps, western Bernese Oberland, northern and furthestmost western parts of Lower Valais as well as Lötschental: 20 to 40 cm
- remaining parts of northern flank of the Alps west of the Reuss, remaining Valais: 10 to 20 cm, elsewhere less

Temperature

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

Wind

In western and in northern regions, moderate to strong velocity, elsewhere light to moderate strength southwesterly winds

Weather forecast until Thursday, 11.4.2013

Skies will be predominantly overcast. Above approximately 2000 m a small amount of snowfall is anticipated. In the foehn-exposed regions of the north there will be intermittent bright intervals. It will also be significantly warmer there.

Fresh snow

Just a few centimeters far and wide, in eastern regions it will remain predominantly dry.

Temperature

At midday at 2000 m, in northern regions approximately +4° C, in southern regions -1° C

Wind

In northern regions strong velocity, elsewhere light to moderate strength southwesterly winds

Outlook until Saturday, 13.4.2013

Friday

Particularly on Thursday night, snowfall is anticipated widespread, in the furthestmost western and in northern regions to some extent heavy. The snowfall level will drop to about 1300 m. On Friday skies will be heavily overcast. The danger of dry avalanches is expected to increase in northern regions in particular. The danger of wet avalanches and full depth snowslides is not expected to change significantly.

Saturday

On Saturday, it will be predominantly sunny. The danger of dry avalanches is not expected to change significantly. As a result of the solar radiation, increasingly frequent moist avalanches can be expected in the regions where there is the most fresh fallen snow.