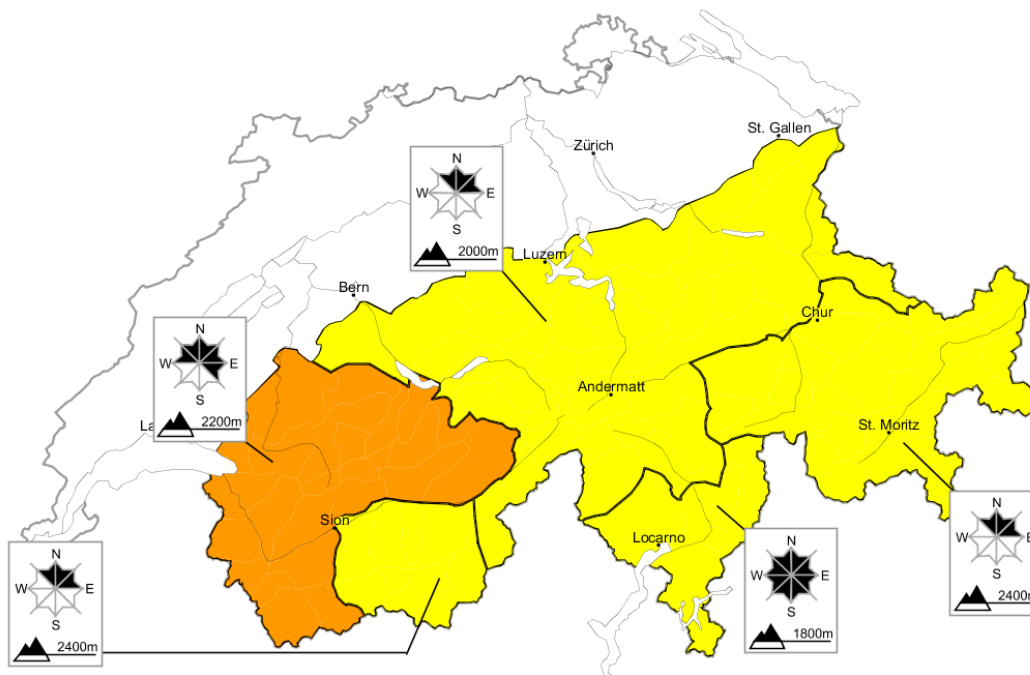


Considerable avalanche danger will be encountered in some regions

Edition: 11.4.2013, 17:00 / Next update: 12.4.2013, 08:00

Avalanche danger

updated on 11.4.2013, 17:00

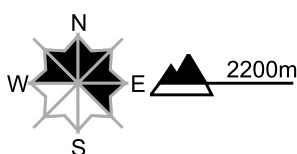


Region A Level 3, considerable



Fresh snow and snow drifts

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

As a consequence of fresh snow and strong wind snow drift accumulations will form. The fresh and older snow drift accumulations 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

As a consequence of the rain more frequent wet avalanches are to be expected, this applies in particular during the night. 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.

Danger levels



1 low



2 moderate



3 consider.



4 high



5 very high



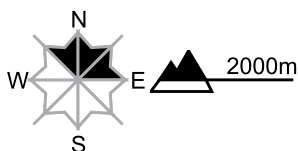
Region B

Level 2, moderate



Snow drifts

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

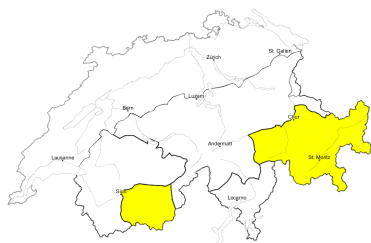
As a consequence of fresh snow and strong wind snow drift accumulations will form. The fresh and older snow drift accumulations can be released easily. These are to be bypassed as far as possible. In high Alpine regions the danger is higher.

Wet and full-depth avalanches

The surface of the snowpack will cool hardly at all during the overcast night, especially at 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.

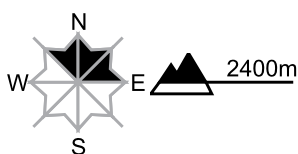
Region C

Level 2, moderate



Snow drifts, old snow

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

As a consequence of fresh snow and wind mostly small snow drift accumulations will form, 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 avalanches as day progresses

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

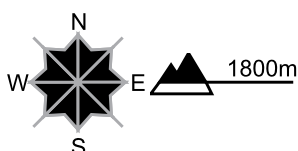
Region D

Level 2, moderate



Fresh snow and snow drifts

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

Fresh snow and snow drift accumulations can in some cases be released easily. Mostly the avalanches are rather small. At elevated altitudes the prevalence and size of the avalanche prone locations will increase. Snow sport activities outside marked and open pistes call for careful route selection.

Wet avalanches as day progresses

The surface of the snowpack will cool hardly at all during the overcast night, especially at intermediate altitudes. In all aspects more frequent mostly small wet avalanches are to be expected below approximately 2400 m.

Snowpack and weather

updated on 11.4.2013, 17:00

Snowpack

As a result of the snowfall, accompanied by strong velocity winds, additional snowdrift accumulations will form which can be easily triggered. They blanket over the snowdrift accumulations which formed during the last three days and which, particularly in the western regions, are quite wide ranging.

As a result of the rainfall and solar radiation, wet sluffs and small avalanches, which for the most part were superficial, were released.

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. The avalanche prone locations are to be found on north facing slopes, in places where the snow is relatively shallow and in seldom used terrain more than anywhere else.

Observed weather on Thursday, 11.4.2013

Skies were heavily overcast in general, accompanied by sunny intervals during the afternoon in particular. From region to region there was snowfall above approximately 2000 m.

Fresh snow

Just a few centimeters

Temperature

At midday at 2000 m, in northern regions +3° C and in southern regions -1° C

Wind

Moderate to strong velocity from the southwest

Weather forecast until Friday, 12.4.2013

Precipitation is expected everywhere in the Swiss Alps tonight, intermittently heavy in western and southern regions in particular. The snowfall level in western and northern regions will drop from approximately 2200 m down to 1400 m. In southern regions snowfall is expected above approximately 1600 m. Tomorrow during the day skies will be heavily overcast in general, accompanied by bright spells in western and southern regions more than anywhere else. Some intermittent snowfall is anticipated.

Fresh snow

Above 2000 m the following amounts of fresh fallen snow are expected:

- western Prealps, westernmost Lower Valais, central Ticino, Sotto Ceneri: 20 to 30 cm, from place to place as much as 40 cm
- remaining regions: 10 to 20 cm widespread

Temperature

At midday at 2000 m, approximately -1° C

Wind

Moderate to strong southwesterly winds shifting to westerly, in high alpine regions winds will be blowing intermittently at storm strength

Outlook until Sunday, 14.4.2013

On Saturday in northern regions it will be partly cloudy, on Sunday it will be predominantly sunny. In southern regions it will be quite sunny on both days. By Sunday evening the zero-degree level will ascend to over 3000 m. The danger of dry avalanches is expected to diminish. The danger of wet avalanches and full depth snowslides will be subject to a daytime warming cycle. Particularly on Sunday the danger level is expected to increase significantly during the course of the day.