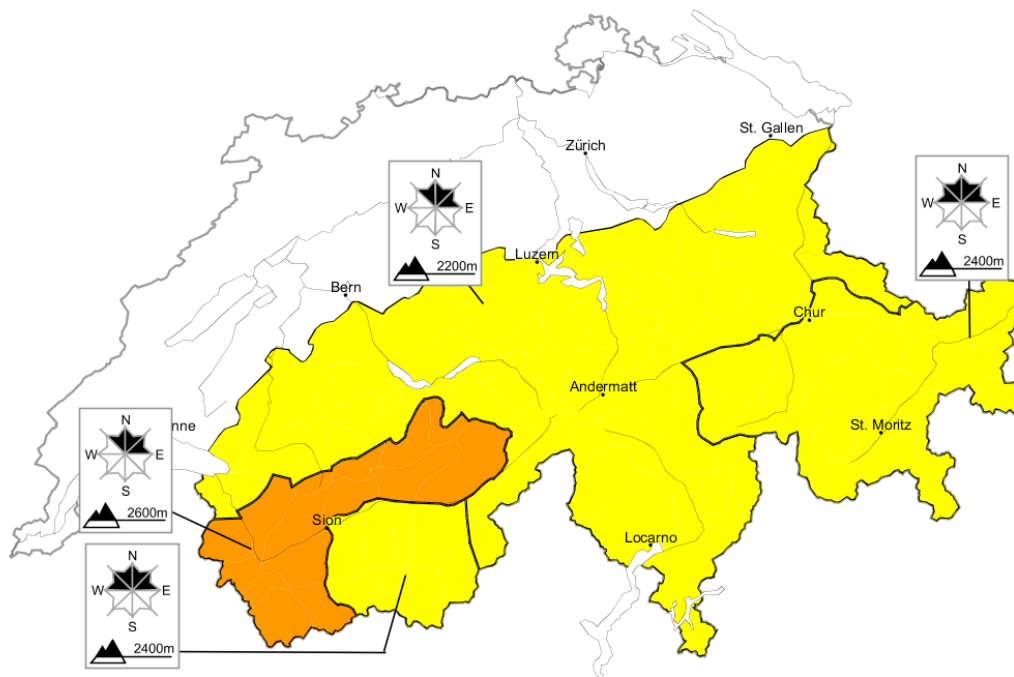


Significant increase in avalanche danger as the day progresses. High avalanche danger will be encountered in some regions

Edition: 14.4.2013, 08:00 / Next update: 14.4.2013, 17:00

Dry avalanches

updated on 14.4.2013, 08:00



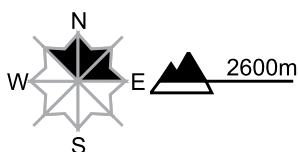
Dry, Region A

Level 3, considerable



Snow drifts

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

The snow drift accumulations of the last few days can be released easily. Dry avalanches can in some cases reach medium size. Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger.

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

Danger levels

1 low

2 moderate

3 consider.

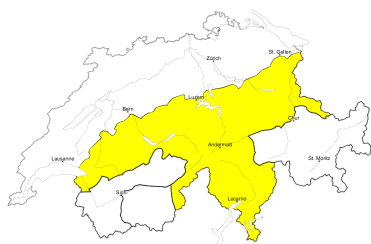
4 high

5 very high



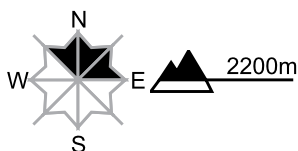
Dry, Region B

Level 2, moderate



Snow drifts

Avalanche prone locations



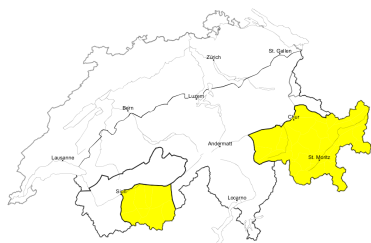
Danger description

The snow drift accumulations of the last few days can be released by a single winter sport participant in some cases. They are to be bypassed as far as possible. Mostly the avalanches are rather small. In high Alpine regions the avalanche prone locations are more prevalent and larger. Here the danger is higher.

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

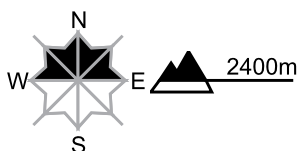
Dry, Region C

Level 2, moderate



Old snow, snow drifts

Avalanche prone locations



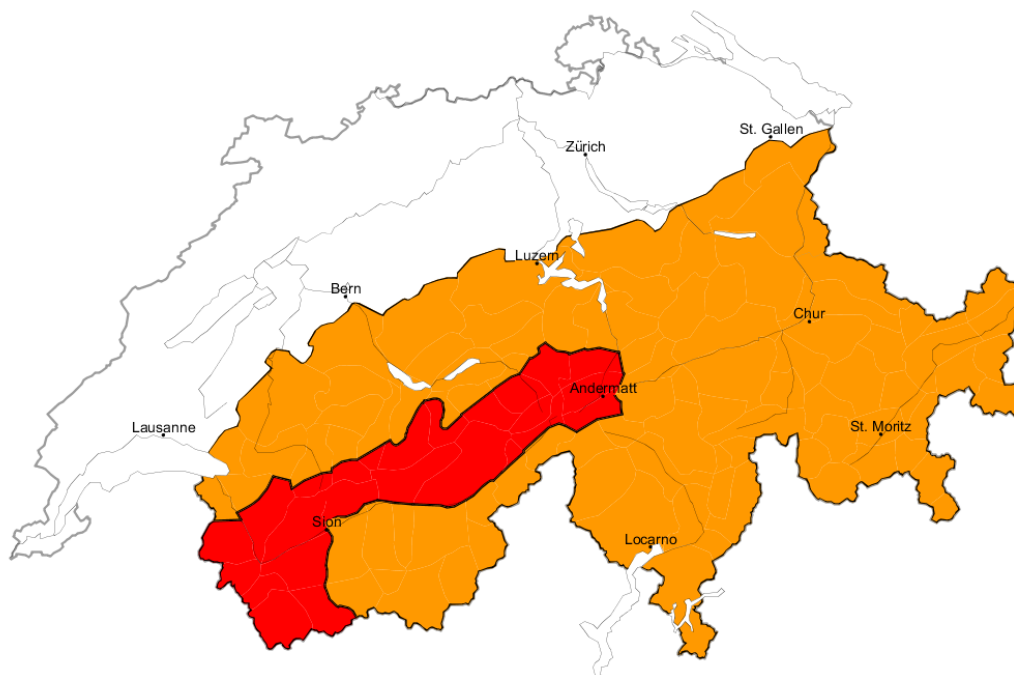
Danger description

In the last few days mostly small snow drift accumulations have formed, in particular adjacent to the ridge line and in gullies and bowls as well as in high Alpine regions. These are to be bypassed. At elevated altitudes the prevalence and size of the avalanche prone locations will increase. In addition avalanches can in some cases penetrate down to the ground and reach medium size. These avalanche prone locations are barely recognisable, even to the trained eye.

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

Wet avalanches as day progresses

updated on 14.4.2013, 08:00



Wet, Region A

Level 4, high



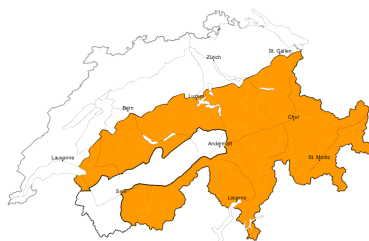
Wet avalanches as day progresses

In the afternoon as a consequence of warming during the day and solar radiation there will be an increase in the danger of wet and full-depth avalanches to level 4 (high). Numerous full-depth and wet avalanches are to be expected, including large ones in isolated cases. This applies on south facing slopes below approximately 3000 m and on north facing slopes below approximately 2400 m. Backcountry tours, off-piste skiing and ascents to alpine cabins should be started very early and concluded timely. Exposed parts of transportation routes are endangered, especially from the middle of the day.

Additional danger: Dry avalanches (see 1st map)

Wet, Region B

Level 3, considerable



Wet avalanches as day progresses

As the day progresses as a consequence of warming during the day and solar radiation there will be a rapid increase in the danger of wet and full-depth avalanches to level 3 (considerable). Numerous full-depth and wet avalanches are to be expected, in particular medium-sized ones. This applies on south facing slopes below approximately 3000 m and on north facing slopes below approximately 2400 m. Backcountry tours, off-piste skiing and ascents to alpine cabins should be started very early and concluded timely. Exposed parts of transportation routes are endangered in some cases, especially from the middle of the day.

Additional danger: Dry avalanches (see 1st map)

Danger levels

1 low

2 moderate

3 consider.

4 high

5 very high



WSL Institute for Snow and
Avalanche Research SLF
www.slf.ch

Snowpack and weather

updated on 13.4.2013, 17:00

Snowpack

Higher temperatures and solar radiation have brought about a weakening of the snow cover. Numerous small and medium sized wet avalanches and full depth snowslides have been released. North facing slopes are isothermal and moist below about 2200 m, south facing slopes below about 2600 m.

On Saturday night amidst predominantly clear skies the snowpack surface will freeze. Early Sunday morning the snowpack surface below approximately 2600 m on east, south and west facing slopes will be frozen and capable of bearing loads. Then as a result of the zero-degree level having ascended to significantly higher altitudes together with the solar radiation, the snow cover will once again forfeit its stability as early as the late morning.

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, both wet and dry avalanches can be triggered down to near-ground level layers of the snowpack and attain medium size.

Observed weather on Saturday, 13.4.2013

Skies were predominantly overcast in northern regions last night. In southern and eastern regions it was partly clear. There was intermittent snowfall above approximately 1400 m. During the day today it was quite sunny everywhere in the Swiss Alps.

Fresh snow

On Friday night the following amounts of snowfall were registered:

- northern flank of the Alps, Lower Valais: 5 to 10 cm, in the western sector of northern flank of the Alps as much as 15 cm
- in the remaining regions, less

Temperature

At midday at 2000 m, in northern regions 0° C and in southern regions +3° C

Wind

Moderate southwesterly winds during the night, intermittently blowing at strong velocity; during the day today at light to moderate strength

Weather forecast until Sunday, 14.4.2013

On the northern flank of the Alps skies will be only partly clear tonight, elsewhere clear. Tomorrow it will be sunny during the day.

Fresh snow

-

Temperature

The zero-degree level will climb to 3500 m by evening.

Wind

Light southwesterly winds

Outlook until Tuesday, 16.4.2013

On Monday it will be predominantly sunny. On Tuesday in northern regions it will be only partly sunny. The zero-degree level will be at approximately 3000 m. The major avalanche danger stems from wet avalanches and full depth snowslides. Avalanche hazards will be subject to a daytime cycle. During the course of the day, numerous naturally triggered wet avalanches and full depth snowslides are expected, including large-sized ones.