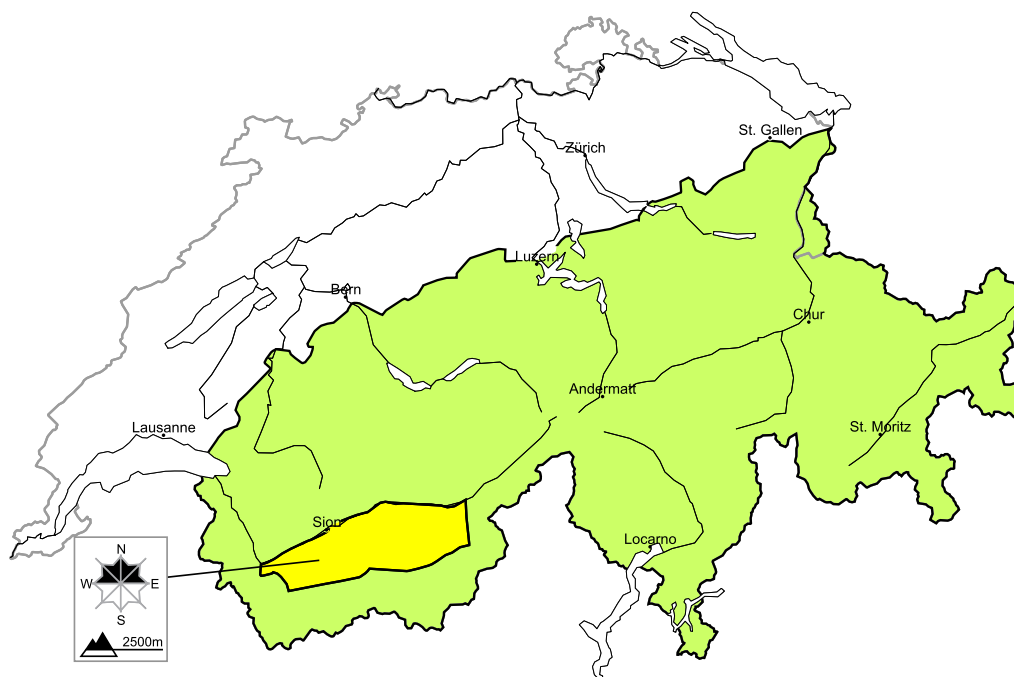


## Increase in danger of wet and full-depth avalanches as the day progresses, especially in the west

Edition: 16.3.2014, 08:00 / Next update: 16.3.2014, 17:00

### Dry avalanches

updated on 16.3.2014, 08:00



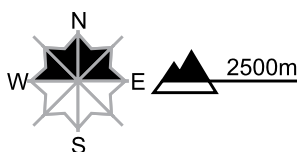
#### Dry, Region A

#### Level 2, moderate



#### Old snow

#### Avalanche prone locations



#### Danger description

In isolated cases avalanches can be triggered in near-ground layers and reach dangerously large size. This applies in particular on very steep north facing slopes and in little used backcountry terrain. In particular at elevated altitudes small snow drift accumulations will form. These are to be evaluated with care and prudence.

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

#### Danger levels

1 low

2 moderate

3 consider.

4 high

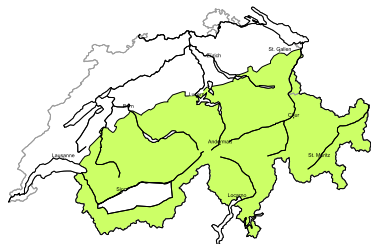
5 very high



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**Dry, Region B**

**Level 1, low**



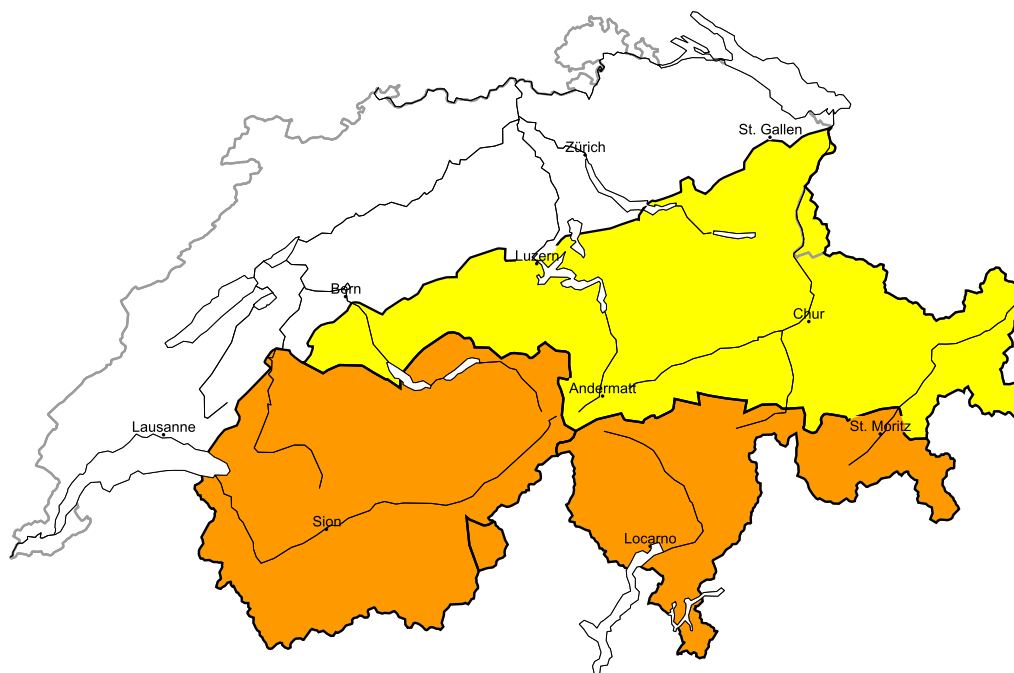
**Snow drifts, old snow**

Individual avalanche prone locations are to be found in particular in extremely steep terrain. In particular at elevated altitudes small snow drift accumulations will form. These are to be evaluated with care and prudence. The number and size of avalanche prone locations will increase with altitude. Even a small avalanche can sweep snow sport participants along and give rise to falls.

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

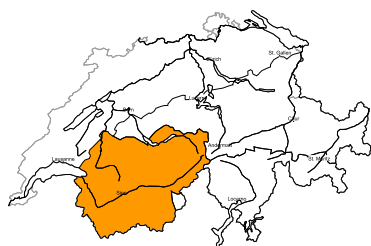
## Wet avalanches as day progresses

updated on 16.3.2014, 08:00



### Wet, Region A

**Level 3, considerable**



#### Wet avalanches as day progresses

As a consequence of warming during the day and solar radiation small and medium-sized full-depth and wet avalanches are to be expected below approximately 2800 m, in particular on very steep east, south and west facing slopes. Backcountry tours should be concluded timely. Caution is to be exercised in areas with glide cracks.

Western part of the northern flank of the Alps, Lower Valais: Also on north facing slopes individual full-depth avalanches are possible below approximately 2200 m.

**Additional danger: Dry avalanches (see 1st map)**

### Wet, Region B

**Level 3, considerable**



#### Wet avalanches as day progresses

Full-depth avalanches are the main danger. They can in isolated cases reach large size. Individual full-depth avalanches can also be released in the night or in the morning. Caution is to be exercised in areas with glide cracks.

As a consequence of warming during the day and solar radiation individual mostly small wet loose snow avalanches are possible below approximately 2600 m, in particular on very steep east, south and west facing slopes. Backcountry tours should be started early and concluded timely.

**Additional danger: Dry avalanches (see 1st map)**

**Wet, Region C**

**Level 2, moderate**



### **Wet avalanches as day progresses**

As a consequence of warming during the day and solar radiation individual small and medium-sized full-depth and wet avalanches are possible below approximately 2800 m, in particular on very steep east, south and west facing slopes. Backcountry tours should be concluded timely. Caution is to be exercised in areas with glide cracks.

**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 15.3.2014, 17:00

### Snowpack

As a result of intermittently strong northerly winds, small-sized snowdrift accumulations are forming at high altitudes in particular.

The snowpack surface on steep, north facing slopes at high altitudes is faceted and loosely packed or heavily impacted by wind. The snow cover on steep, south facing slopes below about 3000 m, and on east and west facing slopes below 2600 m, is 0°-isotherm and proceeding to moisten at an increasing pace. In the regions of the north where snow is shallowest and in general in other places where snow is shallow, the snowpack is thoroughly wet to a far greater extent than in the regions of the south where snowfall has been heavier. The frequency of wet avalanches and full depth snowslides has temporarily subsided.

The snow cover is favourably structured in most regions. The snow layering is unfavourable particularly on west, north and east facing slopes in southern Valais, in northern Grisons and in northern Lower Engadine. In those regions more than anywhere else, isolated dry avalanches, and on east and west facing slopes increasingly frequent moist avalanches, can fracture all the way down to the weak layers near to the ground and sweep them away.

### Observed weather on Saturday, 15.3.2014

Following nocturnally clear skies on Friday night, it was variably cloudy to heavily overcast during the day on Saturday.

#### Fresh snow

-

#### Temperature

At midday at 2000 m, between +1 °C in northern regions and +5 °C in southern regions

#### Wind

In the central and eastern regions more than anywhere else, winds intensified in strength and were blowing at predominantly moderate to strong velocity; elsewhere at light to moderate strength from westerly to northwesterly direction.

### Weather forecast through Sunday, 16.3.2014

On Saturday night, skies will be overcast to begin with. In the central and eastern sectors of the northern flank of the Alps, as well as in northern Grisons, a small amount of snowfall is anticipated. In the latter part of the night, skies are expected to clear in western and southern regions. During the day on Sunday, it will be generally sunny in western and southern regions; in eastern regions it will be variably cloudy to heavily overcast accompanied by the final winding down of the snowfall.

#### Fresh snow

By Sunday midday in the central and eastern sectors of the northern flank of the Alps in particular, as well as in northern Grisons, a few centimeters of fresh fallen snow. Elsewhere it will remain dry. The snowfall level will climb from 1200 m up to 1700 m.

#### Temperature

At midday at 2000 m, between +2 °C in eastern regions and +5 °C in southern regions

#### Wind

Moderate to strong velocity northerly to northwesterly winds; in southern regions, strong velocity northerly foehn wind which in some places will reach down into the valleys

### Outlook through Tuesday, 18.3.2014

On Monday and Tuesday it will be predominantly sunny and once again very mild in western and southern regions in particular. The avalanche situation will be favourable over widespread areas on each morning. The hazards of wet avalanches and full depth snowslides are heavily subject to the daytime warming cycle.