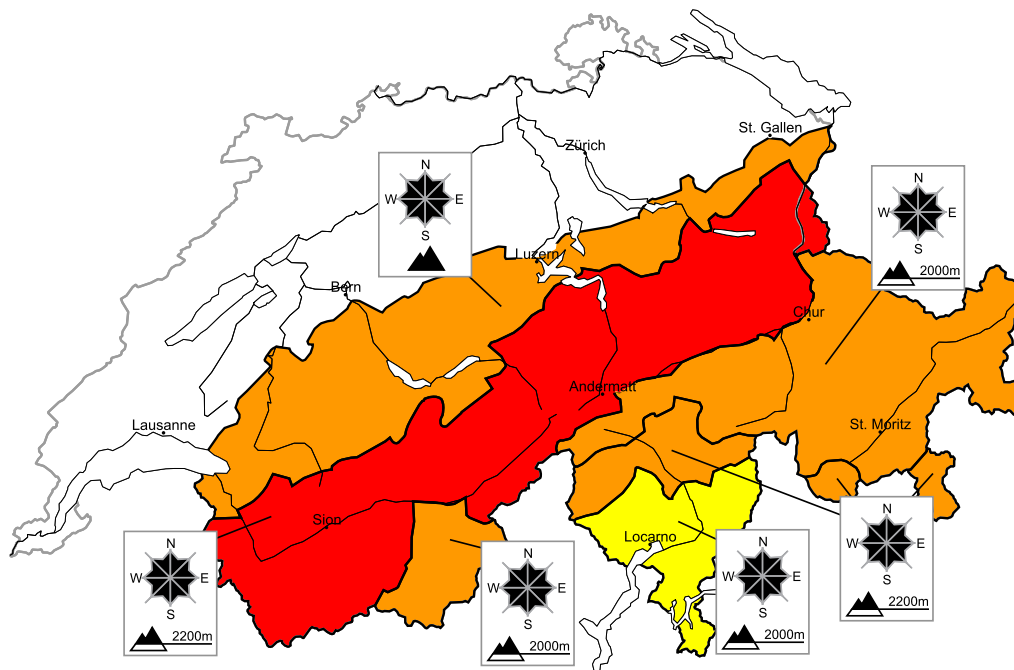


## High avalanche danger will be encountered in some regions

Edition: 31.3.2015, 08:00 / Next update: 31.3.2015, 17:00

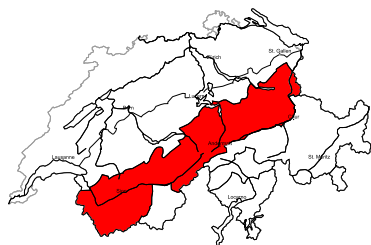
### Avalanche danger

updated on 31.3.2015, 08:00



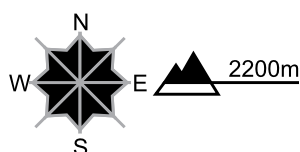
region A

Level 4, high



#### Fresh snow and snow drifts, old snow

##### Avalanche prone locations



##### Danger description

As a consequence of fresh snow and stormy weather extensive snow drift accumulations have formed. Even single persons can release avalanches easily, including dangerously large ones. Natural avalanches are to be expected.

Southern Valais: In some places avalanches can penetrate deep layers.

The conditions are dangerous for snow sport activities outside marked and open pistes.

#### Wet avalanches

As a consequence of the rain wet avalanches are to be expected, in particular on north facing slopes below approximately 2200 m. Exposed parts of transportation routes can be endangered.

Danger levels

1 low

2 moderate

3 consider.

4 high

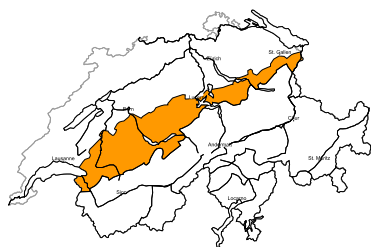
5 very high



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Avalanche Research SLF  
www.slf.ch

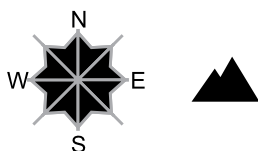
**region B**

**Level 3, considerable**



**Wet avalanches**

**Avalanche prone locations**



**Danger description**

The snowpack is wet all the way through below approximately 2200 m. More frequent wet avalanches are to be expected, in particular on north facing slopes below approximately 2200 m. Exposed parts of transportation routes can be endangered. The conditions are critical for backcountry touring.

**Fresh snow and snow drifts**

As a consequence of fresh snow and wind snow drift accumulations have formed, in particular above approximately 2200 m. These can be released easily, even by a single winter sport participant. Avalanches can reach medium size.

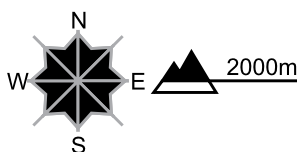
**region C**

**Level 3, considerable**



**Fresh snow and snow drifts, old snow**

**Avalanche prone locations**



**Danger description**

As a consequence of fresh snow and stormy weather snow drift accumulations have formed. Even single persons can release avalanches easily, including medium-sized ones. Natural avalanches are to be expected.

Visp valleys, the inneralpine regions of Grisons, Lower Engadine as well as Val Müstair: In some places avalanches can penetrate deep layers.

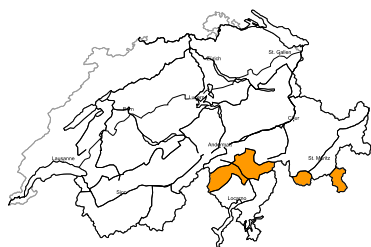
Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger and caution.

**Wet avalanches**

As a consequence of the rain wet avalanches are to be expected, in particular on north facing slopes below approximately 2200 m.

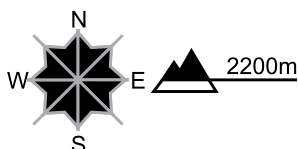
**region D**

**Level 3, considerable**



**Fresh snow and snow drifts**

**Avalanche prone locations**



**Danger description**

As a consequence of fresh snow and stormy weather snow drift accumulations have formed. Even single persons can release avalanches easily. The number and size of avalanche prone locations will increase with altitude. Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger.

**Wet avalanches**

As a consequence of the rain wet avalanches are to be expected, in particular on north facing slopes below approximately 2200 m.

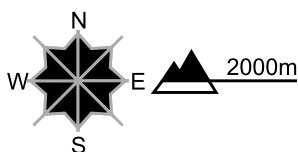
**region E**

**Level 2, moderate**



**Snow drifts**

**Avalanche prone locations**



**Danger description**

As a consequence of the strong wind mostly small snow drift accumulations have formed. Even single persons can release avalanches. The number and size of avalanche prone locations will increase with altitude. Ski touring calls for careful route selection.

**Wet avalanches**

Individual mostly small moist snow slides and avalanches are possible.

## Snowpack and weather

updated on 30.3.2015, 17:00

### Snowpack

Fresh snow and stormy weather gave rise to extensive snow drift accumulations in the north. Avalanches can be released easily and reach a dangerously large size. In the regions exposed to heavier precipitation, moreover, natural avalanches are to be expected again on Tuesday.

In southern Valais, the inneralpine regions of Grisons and in Val Müstair, weak faceted layers exist deeper in the snowpack. In these regions in particular, avalanches can penetrate deep layers of the old snowpack. These avalanche prone locations are barely recognisable.

The old snowpack is moist all the way through on south facing slopes below approximately 2800 m. Below approximately 2300 m, it has become moist on the majority of west and east facing slopes. In view of the high snowfall level, the snowpack has become increasingly moist on north facing slopes as well below 2000 m. Here in particular, numerous wet snow avalanches have already been released.

### Observed weather on Monday, 30.3.2015

The weather was mostly very cloudy. Snow fell heavily in the north. In most cases the snowfall level was between 1200 and 1800 m. There were bright spells in the far south.

#### Fresh snow

The following amounts of snow fell above 2200 m in the period from Saturday afternoon until Monday evening:

- Northern Alpine ridge, southern Valais excluding the Visp valleys: 40 to 60 cm, but as much as 80 cm in some localities in Goms and the Grimsel region
- Rest of the northern flank of the Alps, Visp valleys, rest of the Gotthard region, rest of northern Grisons, northern Lower Engadine: 20 to 40 cm
- Central Grisons, southern Lower Engadine, Val Müstair: 10 to 20 cm
- Further south: smaller quantities, even remaining dry in the south

#### Temperature

At midday at 2000 m: about 0 °C

#### Wind

Strong to storm force on the northern flank of the Alps and in Valais, elsewhere moderate to strong from the west to northwest

### Weather forecast through Tuesday, 31.3.2015

During the night, snow will fall over a wide area in the north. The snowfall level will be between 1500 and 1800 m. In the morning there will be a brief break in precipitation and some bright spells are possible. From the afternoon precipitation will arrive again from the northwest. The snowfall level will drop rapidly towards 1000 m. The far south will be quite sunny.

#### Fresh snow

The following amounts of snow will fall above approximately 2200 m in the period from Monday evening until Tuesday evening:

- Northern Alpine ridge, western Lower Valais: 20 to 30 cm, but 40 cm in some localities
- Rest of the northern flank of the Alps, rest of Valais, northern Grisons, northern Lower Engadine: 10 to 20 cm
- Further south: smaller quantities, even remaining dry in the south

#### Temperature

At midday at 2000 m: about -1 °C in the north and +3 °C in the south

#### Wind

On the northern flank of the Alps and at high altitude, strong to storm force westerly to northwesterly wind

**Outlook** through Thursday, 2.4.2015

**Wednesday**

Snow will fall in the north. The largest quantities, up to around 30 cm, will fall on the northern flank of the Alps. The snowfall level will drop to approximately 800 m. The wind will be strong from the west to northwest. It will be quite sunny in the south. The danger of dry avalanches will change very little. In the regions exposed to a lot of fresh snow, critical conditions will prevail for snow sport participants venturing outside marked and open pistes. The danger of wet avalanches will decrease slowly as the temperature falls.

**Thursday**

Snow will fall in the north, predominantly in the eastern regions. The amounts of precipitation remain uncertain. The snowfall level will be below 1000 m. The wind will remain strong from the west to northwest. The south can anticipate mostly sunny weather on both days. The danger of dry avalanches will decrease in the west. In the east the situation will remain critical. The danger of dry avalanches will continue to decrease.