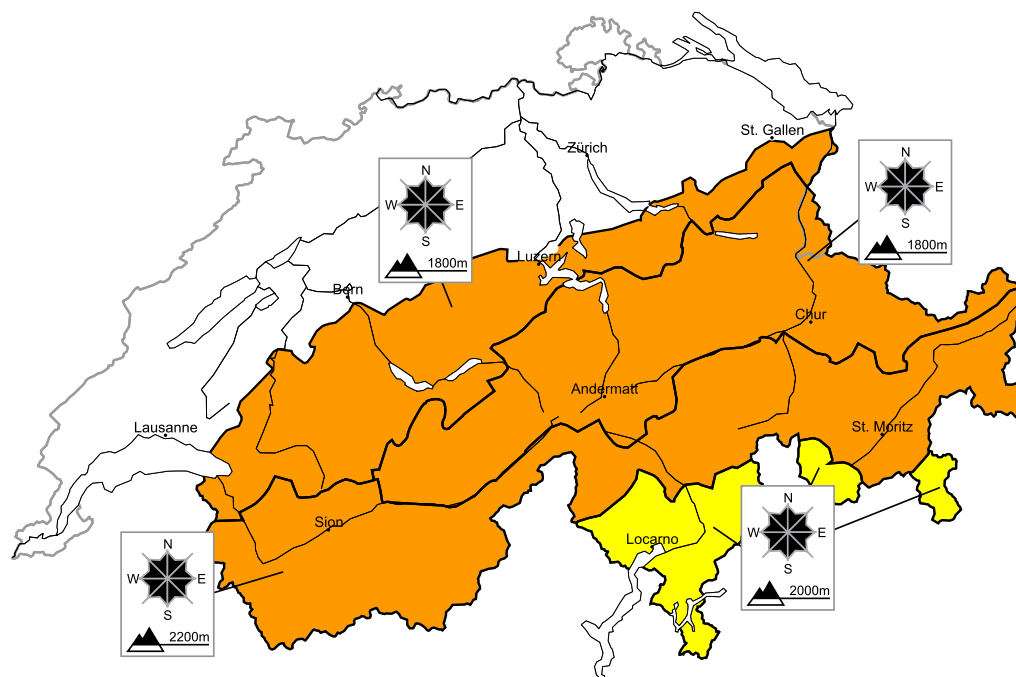


Considerable avalanche danger will be encountered over a wide area

Edition: 3.4.2015, 08:00 / Next update: 3.4.2015, 17:00

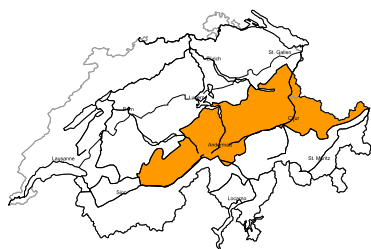
Avalanche danger

updated on 3.4.2015, 08:00



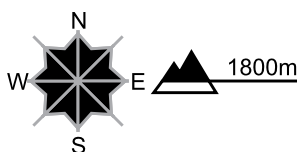
region A

Level 3, considerable



Fresh snow and snow drifts

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

The more recent snow drift accumulations represent the main danger. These can be released, even by a single winter sport participant or triggered naturally. As a consequence of warming during the day and the solar radiation, the likelihood of dry avalanches being released will increase for a while. Small and medium-sized avalanches are to be expected. Exposed parts of transportation routes can be endangered. Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for caution and restraint.

Wet avalanches as day progresses

As a consequence of warming during the day and solar radiation small and, in isolated cases, medium-sized full-depth and wet avalanches are to be expected below approximately 2000 m.

Danger levels



1 low



2 moderate



3 consider.



4 high



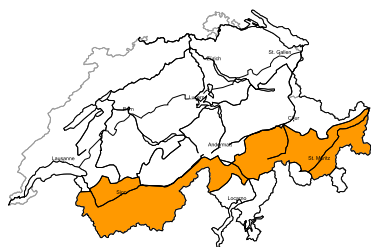
5 very high



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

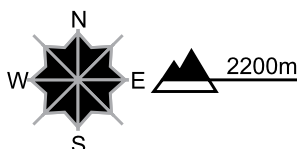
region B

Level 3, considerable



Fresh snow and snow drifts

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

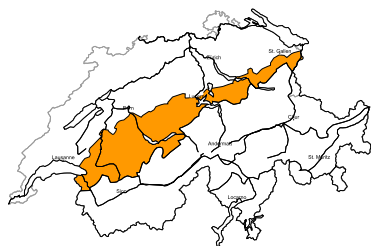
The more recent snow drift accumulations represent the main danger. These can be released by a single winter sport participant. As a consequence of warming during the day and the solar radiation, the likelihood of dry avalanches being released will increase for a while. Mostly small natural avalanches are possible. Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger and caution.

Wet avalanches as day progresses

As a consequence of warming during the day and solar radiation mostly small moist and wet avalanches are to be expected below approximately 2000 m.

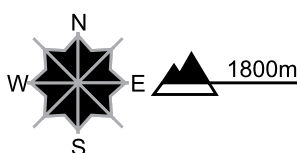
region C

Level 3, considerable



Fresh snow and snow drifts

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

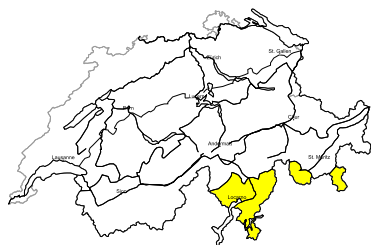
The more recent snow drift accumulations represent the main danger. These can be released by a single winter sport participant. As a consequence of warming during the day and the solar radiation, the likelihood of dry avalanches being released will increase for a while. Mostly small natural avalanches are possible. Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger and caution.

Wet avalanches as day progresses

As a consequence of warming during the day and solar radiation mostly small full-depth and wet avalanches are to be expected below approximately 2000 m.

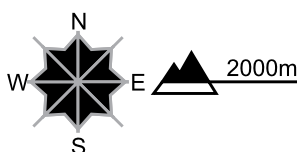
region D

Level 2, moderate



Snow drifts

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

The snow drift accumulations of the last few days represent the main danger. Even single persons can release avalanches. Mostly these are small. The number and size of avalanche prone locations will increase with altitude. Ski touring calls for careful route selection.

Snowpack and weather

updated on 2.4.2015, 17:00

Snowpack

The very deep snowdrift accumulations which have formed ongoingly since Sunday cannot in any likelihood be released, or else only as a result of large additional loading. As a consequence of storm winds and snowfall, further snowdrift accumulations formed on Wednesday and Thursday. These newly drifted masses can be easily triggered. Naturally triggered avalanches, however, have occurred but rarely.

On the Main Alpine Ridge from the Simplon into the Bernina region and southwards therefrom, the snowpack layering is favourable for the most part. In the remaining regions at high altitudes there are weak layers consisting of faceted snow crystals deeply embedded inside the snow cover. These layers can in isolated cases sweep away lower-down sections of the snowpack whenever avalanches fracture. These avalanche prone locations are nearly impossible to recognize. Beneath the fresh fallen and freshly drifted snow of the last few days, the snow cover on south facing slopes below approximately 2800 m, on west and east facing slopes below approximately 2300 m, and on north facing slopes below approximately 2000 m, is thoroughly wet.

Observed weather on Thursday, 2.4.2015

In the furthestmost southern regions it was rather sunny. In the remaining regions skies were overcast. In northern and eastern regions there was snowfall above approximately 1000 m.

Fresh snow

Between Wednesday midday and Thursday afternoon, the following amounts of new fallen snow were registered above 1200 m:

- Central and eastern sectors of the northern flank of the Alps, northern Grisons, Samnaun: 15 to 30 cm; in the Urner and Glarner Alps, as much as 50 cm
- Western sector of the northern flank of the Alps, Lower Valais, northern Upper Valais, Bedretto, central Grisons and remaining parts of Lower Engadine: 5 to 15 cm; in other regions, less; or it remained dry.

In the major areas of precipitation in the central and eastern sectors of the northern flank of the Alps, as well as in northern Grisons, there has been 50 to 80 cm of fresh fallen snow at high altitudes since Tuesday evening.

Temperature

At midday at 2000 m, -2 °C

Wind

In the furthestmost western regions, moderate strength to strong velocity westerly to northwesterly winds. In other regions, particularly at high altitudes, strong to storm-velocity winds were blowing.

Weather forecast through Friday, 3.4.2015

In the evening the snowfall is expected to continue in northern regions, although it will tend to shift towards the west. The snowfall level will be below 1000 m. As of about midnight, it will turn dry. During the day tomorrow it will be sunny to begin with. Over the course of the afternoon, new cloud cover will move in from the northwest.

Fresh snow

Between Thursday evening and Friday morning, the following amounts of fresh fallen snow are anticipated:

- Western and central sectors of the northern flank of the Alps, Valais: 10 to 20 cm
- Eastern sector of the northern flank of the Alps, northern and central Grisons: 5 to 10 cm; in other regions, less.

Temperature

At midday at 2000 m, -4 °C

Wind

During the night, strong northwesterly winds; subsequently blowing at moderate strength through the day.

Outlook through Sunday, 5.4.2015

Saturday

Above 1300 to 1600 m, snowfall over widespread areas is anticipated. In northern regions the snowfall will be heavy. Winds will be blowing at moderate to strong velocity from westerly to northwesterly directions. New snowdrift accumulations are expected to form. They will be the major source of danger.

Sunday

Weather developments for Sunday are still uncertain. Particularly in northeastern regions, additional snowfall is quite possible. Heavy snowfall bringing large amounts of new fallen snow are distinctly possible. In the areas of precipitation the avalanche scenario will remain delicate and treacherous. In western and southern regions the avalanche danger is expected to incrementally decrease.