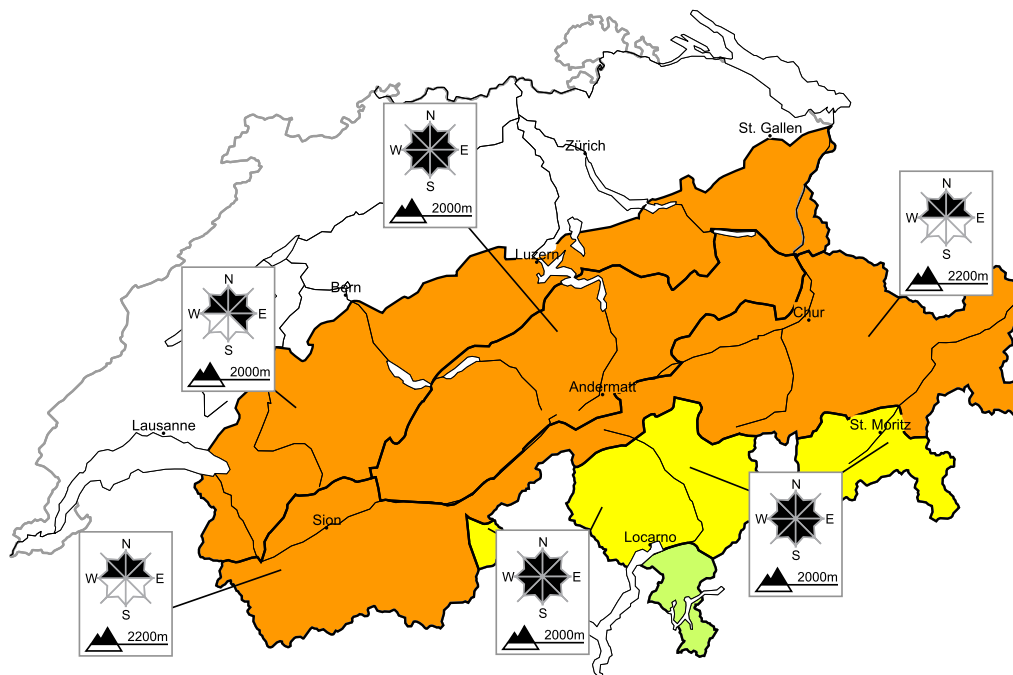


# Considerable avalanche danger will be encountered over a wide area

Edition: 4.4.2015, 08:00 / Next update: 4.4.2015, 17:00

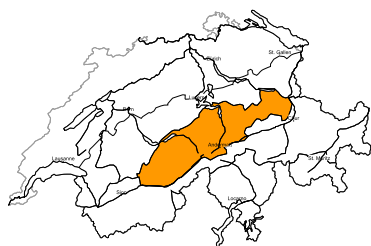
## Avalanche danger

updated on 4.4.2015, 08:00



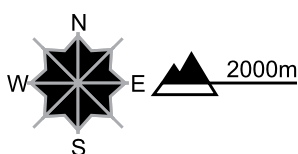
### region A

### Level 3, considerable



#### Fresh snow and snow drifts

##### Avalanche prone locations



##### Danger description

The deep snow drift accumulations of the last few days can be released, especially by large additional loads. As the day progresses easily released snow drift accumulations will form. These can be released, even by a single winter sport participant. As the snowfall becomes more intense natural avalanches are possible, including medium-sized ones, this applies in the afternoon. Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for caution and restraint.

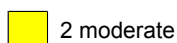
#### Full-depth avalanches

In all aspects individual full-depth avalanches are to be expected below approximately 2000 m.

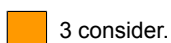
#### Danger levels



1 low



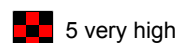
2 moderate



3 consider.



4 high

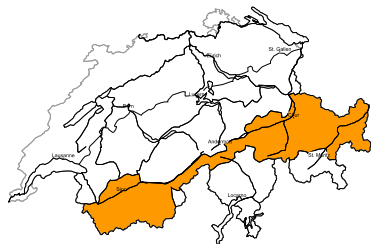


5 very high



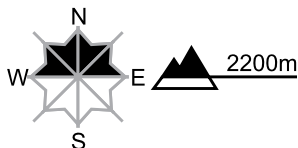
region B

Level 3, considerable



Snow drifts, old snow

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

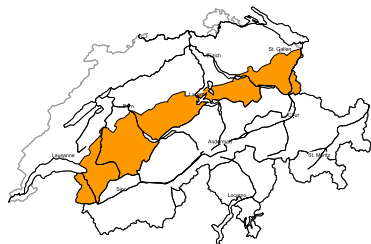
The snow drift accumulations of the last few days are prone to triggering. Avalanches can additionally in some places be released in deeper layers in little used backcountry terrain. As the day progresses mostly small snow drift accumulations will form, especially adjacent to the ridge line in all aspects. These can be released by a single winter sport participant. Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger and caution.

Full-depth avalanches

In all aspects individual full-depth avalanches are to be expected below approximately 2000 m.

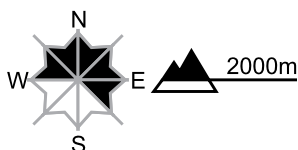
region C

Level 3, considerable



Fresh snow and snow drifts

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

The sometimes large snow drift accumulations of the last few days can be released, especially by large additional loads. As the day progresses easily released snow drift accumulations will form, especially adjacent to the ridge line in all aspects. These can be released, even by a single winter sport participant. Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for caution and restraint.

Full-depth avalanches

In all aspects individual full-depth avalanches are to be expected below approximately 2000 m.

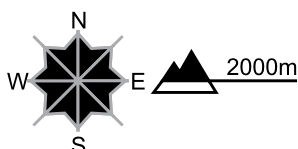
region D

Level 2, moderate



Snow drifts

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

The snow drift accumulations of the last few days represent the main danger. Single winter sport participants can release avalanches in some places. Mostly these are small. The number and size of avalanche prone locations will increase with altitude. Ski touring calls for careful route selection.

**region E**

**Level 1, low**





### **Favourable situation**

Individual avalanche prone locations are to be found especially in extremely steep terrain. Even a small avalanche can sweep snow sport participants along and give rise to falls.


**Danger levels**

 1 low

 2 moderate

 3 consider.

 4 high

 5 very high



## Snowpack and weather

updated on 3.4.2015, 17:00

### Snowpack

The very deep snowdrift accumulations which have formed continuously over the last few days have stabilised. They can still be triggered primarily through large additional loading. As winds and snowfall set in, new snowdrift accumulations form which will easily be triggered.

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, particularly on east and west facing slopes 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 Friday, 3.4.2015

During the night the snowfall came to an end in northern regions. During the morning it was sunny everywhere in the Swiss Alps. In the afternoon, renewed cloud cover moved in from the west.

#### Fresh snow

Between Thursday midday and Friday morning above 2000m, the following amounts of fresh fallen snow were registered:

- Northern sector of Alpine Ridge from the Wildstrubel into Liechtenstein: 30 to 50 cm
- Remaining sectors of the northern flank of the Alps, remaining parts of Valais not including the regions of Simplon and Saas Valley, Bedretto, northern and central Grisons, Lower Engadine: 15 to 30 cm
- In other regions, noticeably less; or else it remained dry.

#### Temperature

At midday at 2000 m, between +1 °C in western regions and -4 °C in eastern regions

#### Wind

During the night westerly to northwesterly winds were blowing at moderate to strong velocity; during the day slackening off to moderate strength.

### Weather forecast through Saturday, 4.4.2015

During the night snowfall is expected to set in from the west. The snowfall level will be at approximately 1500 m in the furthest western regions. In other regions it will be at approximately 1200 m.

Throughout the day skies will be heavily overcast in northern regions. Snowfall intensity will tend to increase during the afternoon, the snowfall level dropping down to low lying areas. In southern regions skies will remain variably cloudy accompanied by a small amount of snowfall above 1200 m.

#### Fresh snow

Above 2000 m:

- Northern flank of the Alps, Lower Valais: 15 to 30 cm; in the central sector of the northern flank of the Alps, as much as 40 cm from place to place.
- Upper Valais, Grisons: 5 to 15 cm
- Ticino: approximately 5 cm

#### Temperature

At midday at 2000 m, -3 °C

#### Wind

Westerly winds, blowing at moderate strength at high altitudes, will shift to northerly.

**Outlook** through Monday, 6.4.2015

In northern regions there will be snowfall in the latter part of Saturday night. On Sunday it will turn increasingly sunny. On Monday it will be sunny in general. In southern regions it will be predominantly sunny on both days. The danger of dry avalanches is expected to incrementally subside. The danger of wet and gliding avalanches will be subject to a daytime danger cycle.

