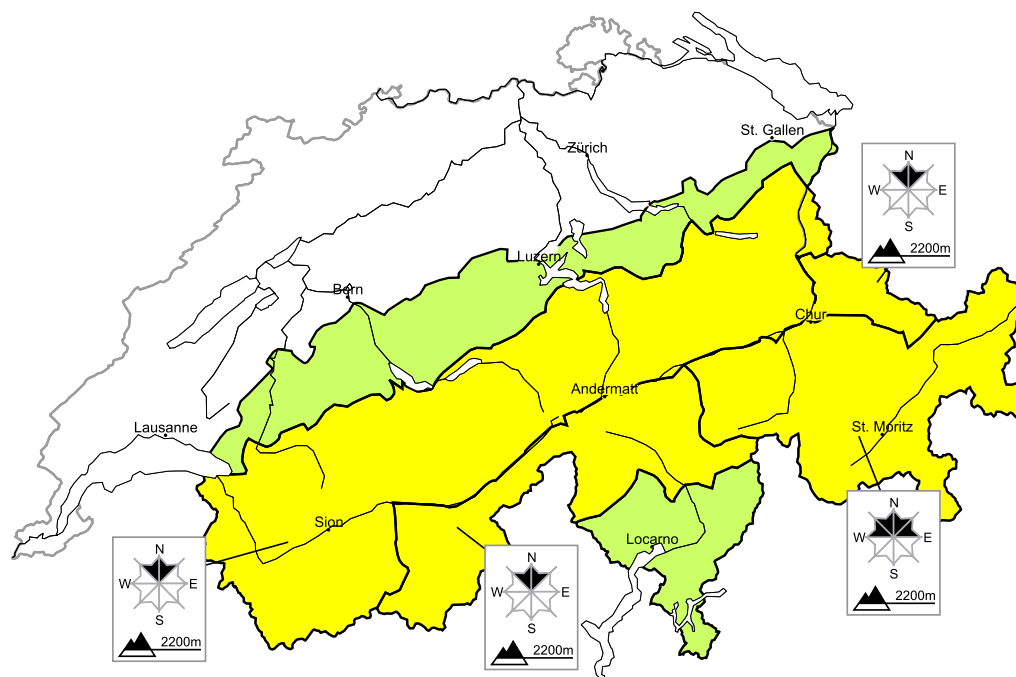


A generally favourable avalanche situation will prevail. Weakly bonded old snow in Grisons

Edition: 13.3.2016, 17:00 / Next update: 14.3.2016, 08:00

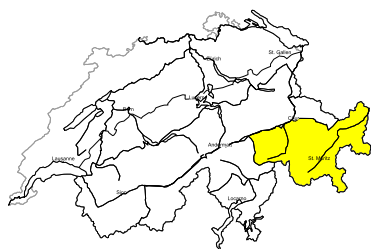
Avalanche danger

updated on 13.3.2016, 17:00



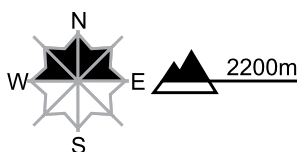
region A

Level 2, moderate



Old snow

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

The near-surface layers of the snowpack can be released in isolated cases and mostly by large additional loads.

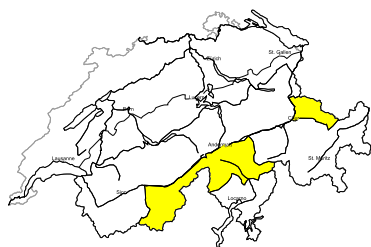
Additionally avalanches can be triggered in near-ground layers and reach dangerously large size. These avalanche prone locations are rare but barely recognisable, even to the trained eye. They are to be found in particular on little used, rather lightly snow-covered shady slopes and at transitions from a shallow to a deep snowpack above approximately 2400 m. Steep north facing slopes are to be traversed by snow sport participants one at a time.

Wet avalanches as day progresses

As a consequence of solar radiation individual moist snow slides are possible as the day progresses. This applies in particular on very steep south facing slopes below approximately 2500 m.

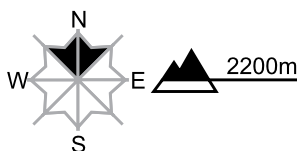
region B

Level 2, moderate



Old snow

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

The near-surface layers of the snowpack can be released in isolated cases and mostly by large additional loads.

Additionally in very isolated cases avalanches can penetrate deep layers and reach dangerously large size, especially on north facing slopes above approximately 2400 m. The avalanche prone locations are to be found in particular on little used, rather lightly snow-covered shady slopes.

Very steep north facing slopes are to be traversed by snow sport participants one at a time.

Wet avalanches as day progresses

As a consequence of solar radiation individual moist snow slides are possible as the day progresses. This applies in particular on very steep south facing slopes below approximately 2500 m.

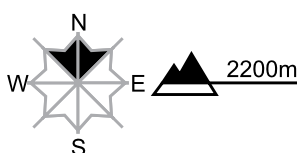
region C

Level 2, moderate



Old snow

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

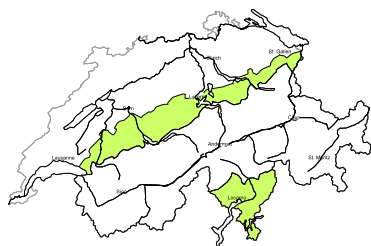
The near-surface layers of the snowpack can be released in isolated cases and mostly by large additional loads. Careful route selection is recommended.

Wet avalanches as day progresses, Full-depth avalanches

As a consequence of solar radiation moist snow slides are possible as the day progresses. This applies in particular on very steep south facing slopes below approximately 2500 m. Full-depth avalanches are possible in particular on steep grassy slopes.

region D

Level 1, low



Favourable situation

Individual avalanche prone locations for dry avalanches are to be found in particular on extremely steep shady slopes. Restraint should be exercised because avalanches can sweep people along and give rise to falls.

Wet avalanches as day progresses, Full-depth avalanches

As a consequence of solar radiation individual moist snow slides are possible as the day progresses. This applies in particular on very steep south facing slopes. Full-depth avalanches are possible in particular on steep grassy slopes.

Snowpack and weather

updated on 13.3.2016, 17:00

Snowpack

The layers of snow near to the uppermost surface can currently trigger only in isolated cases, and primarily by large additional loading.

More deeply embedded layers inside the snow cover near the ground are riddled with faceted snow crystals over widespread areas in southern Upper Valais, in northern Ticino, in the inneralpine regions of Grisons, in the Engadine and in the southern valleys of Grisons. In those regions, avalanches can in very isolated cases fracture down to these weakened layers in some places and thereby grow to dangerously large size, particularly on north-facing slopes above approximately 2400 m. In the other regions, it is now hardly possible that a dry avalanche will fracture down to these deeply embedded layers near the ground.

The uppermost surface of the snowpack frequently evidences heavy influence from wind impact and is highly irregular, more than anywhere else in high alpine regions. In other regions the uppermost surface layer is often powdery, particularly on wind-protected north-facing slopes. On sunny slopes a surface crust forms during the nights which is capable of bearing loads to some extent, however only on steep, south-facing slopes. These crusts tend to melt during the daytime as a result of solar radiation, which in turn makes moist sluffs possible.

Observed weather on Sunday, 13.3.2016

In the early morning hours, in eastern regions below approximately 2800 m, in western regions below approximately 2500 m, skies were overcast with low stratus cloud resembling high fog. During the daytime, the clouds dispersed to a certain degree and skies became variably cloudy in all regions of Switzerland.

Fresh snow

-

Temperature

At midday at 2000 m, -4 °C.

Wind

Winds were blowing from easterly directions, for the most part at light strength, intermittently at moderate strength on the northern flank of the Alps.

Weather forecast through Monday, 14.3.2016

In northern regions below approximately 1500 m, skies will be overcast with low stratus clouds resembling high fog. During the course of the day, the fogbanks will tend to disperse in some areas. Above the fog, and in the other regions in general, it will be mostly sunny.

Fresh snow

-

Temperature

At midday at 2000 m, -2 °C.

Wind

Winds will be easterly, blowing at light to moderate velocity.

Outlook through Wednesday, 16.3.2016**Tuesday**

During the course of the day, cloud cover will move in from the northeast. In the afternoon, a small amount of snowfall is possible in eastern regions. In the Valais it is expected to remain quite sunny. The avalanche danger is not expected to change significantly.

Wednesday

In northern regions and in the Valais, skies will be variably cloudy accompanied by a small amount of fresh fallen snow. In southern regions, intermittent snowfall down to low altitudes is anticipated. The avalanche danger is expected to increase somewhat, more than anywhere else in southern regions.