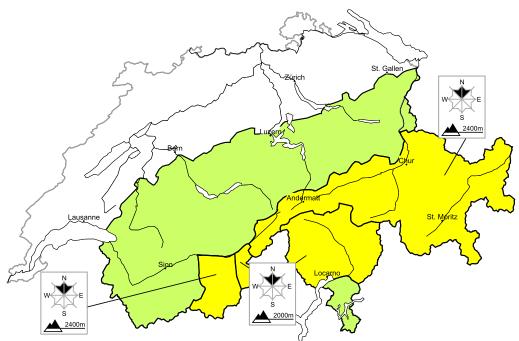
A generally favourable avalanche situation will prevail. Increase in danger of wet and full-depth avalanches as the day progresses

Edition: 20.3.2016, 08:00 / Next update: 20.3.2016, 17:00

Dry avalanches

updated on 20.3.2016, 08:00



Dry, region A

Level 2, moderate



Snow drifts, old snow

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

The somewhat older snow drift accumulations can still be released in some cases in particular on steep shady slopes. Mostly avalanches are small. The snow drift accumulations are to be evaluated with care and prudence.

Additionally in isolated cases avalanches can also be triggered in near-ground layers and reach medium 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. As a consequence of warming during the day, the likelihood of dry avalanches being released will increase a little in particular in the inneralpine regions of Grisons.

Backcountry touring calls for careful route selection.

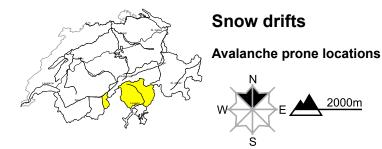
Additional danger: Wet avalanches as day progresses (see 2nd map)







Level 2, moderate



Danger description

Fresh snow drift accumulations are to be found adjacent to the ridge line in all aspects. They are small. The somewhat older snow drift accumulations can still be released in some cases in particular on steep shady slopes.

The snow drift accumulations are to be evaluated with care and prudence. Apart from the danger of being buried, restraint should be exercised also in view of the danger of avalanches sweeping people along and giving rise to falls.

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

Dry, region C Level 1, low

Snow drifts

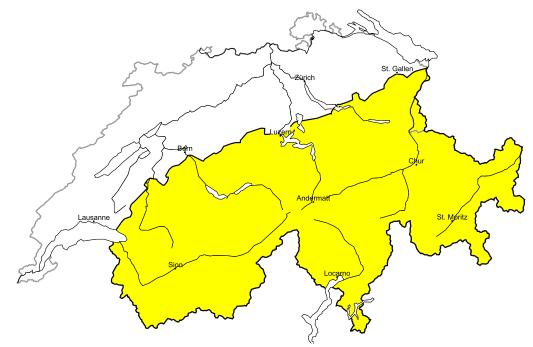
The somewhat older snow drift accumulations can still be released in some cases in particular on steep shady slopes. They are to be evaluated with care and prudence. Apart from the danger of being buried, restraint should be exercised in particular in view of the danger of avalanches sweeping people along and giving rise to falls.

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



Wet avalanches as day progresses

updated on 20.3.2016, 08:00



Wet

Level 2, moderate



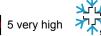
Wet avalanches as day progresses

In particular on steep east, south and west facing slopes small and, in isolated cases, medium-sized full-depth and wet avalanches are to be expected as a consequence of warming during the day and solar radiation. This applies below approximately 2600 m.

Also on north facing slopes individual full-depth avalanches are possible below approximately 2000 m.

Areas with glide cracks are to be avoided.

Additional danger: Dry avalanches (see 1st map)



Snowpack and weather

updated on 19.3.2016, 17:00

Snowpack

The uppermost layers of the snow cover are in isolated cases still prone to triggering on steep, north-facing slopes more than anywhere else. The old snowpack is favourably structured 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, the deeply embedded layers inside the snowpack near ground level are riddled with loosely-packed, faceted crystals over widespread areas. It the regions cited, avalanches can in very isolated cases fracture down to these weakened, deeply embedded layers, sweep away the entire snowpack and thereby grow to dangerously large size. This danger threatens on north-facing slopes above approximately 2400 m more than anywhere else.

On shady, wind-protected slopes, loosely-packed snow has been deposited in some places. On steep, south-facing slopes below approximately 2800 m, the uppermost layers tend to freeze in the early morning hours and are capable of bearing loads. During the course of the day, the snowpack surface softens up, with the consequence that sluffs, moist snowslides and avalanches can be expected. Gliding avalanches are possible at any time of day or night and are even (in isolated cases) possible on north-facing slopes.

Observed weather on Saturday, 19.3.2016

Following a night of clear skies, it was sunny during the daytime.

Fresh snow

Temperature At midday at 2000 m, +2 °C.

Wind

Winds were northerly to easterly, blowing mostly at light strength.

Weather forecast through Sunday, 20.3.2016

Following a night of clear skies it will be predominantly sunny during the daytime accompanied by high altitude cloudbanks particularly in the afternoon.

Fresh snow

Temperature

At midday at 2000 m +1 °C.

Wind

Winds will be blowing from westerly directions, for the most part at light strength.

Outlook through Tuesday, 22.3.2016

On both days in northern regions it will be sunny for the most part above the high fog, following nights of clear skies. In southern regions it will be sunny on Monday and on Tuesday variably cloudy. The avalanche danger is not expected to change significantly.

