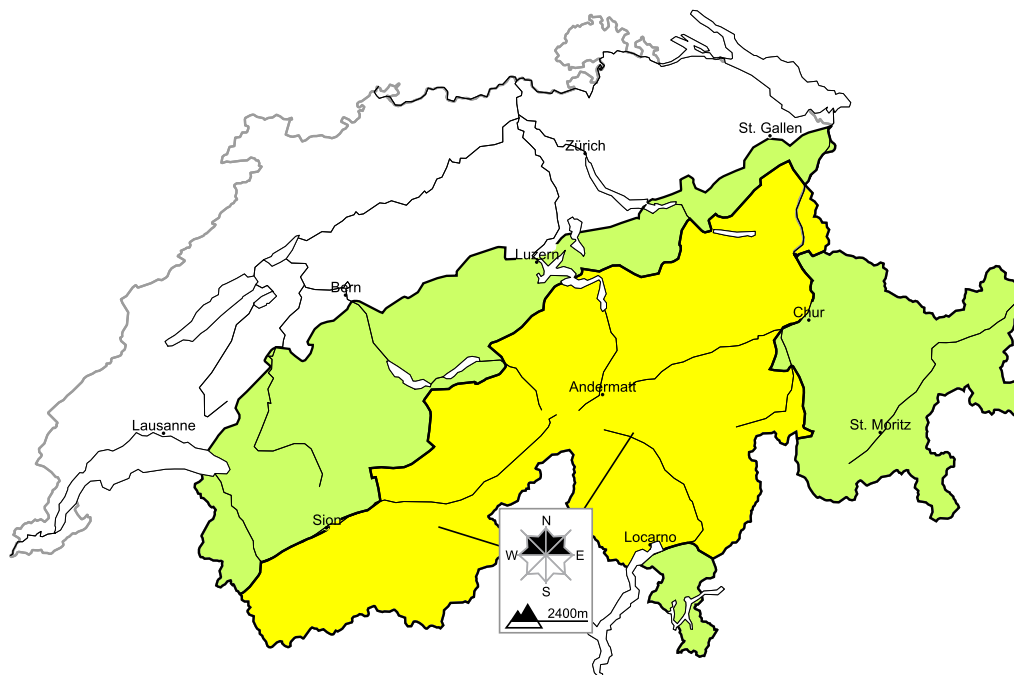


Increase in danger of wet avalanches as a consequence of warming during the day and solar radiation

Edition: 10.4.2016, 08:00 / Next update: 10.4.2016, 17:00

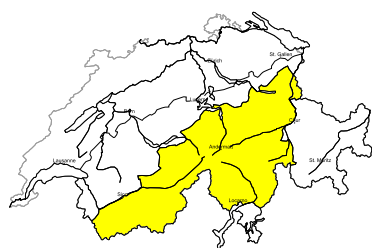
Dry avalanches

updated on 10.4.2016, 08:00



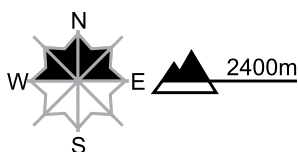
Dry, region A

Level 2, moderate



Fresh snow

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

The fresh snow of the last few days can still be released in some cases in particular on steep north facing slopes. Snow drift accumulations are to be found in particular adjacent to the ridge line and in pass areas. They are mostly rather small but in some cases prone to triggering. They are to be evaluated with care and prudence in steep terrain.

Saas Fee, the Simplon region and Binntal: In high Alpine regions avalanche prone locations are more widespread and the danger is slightly greater.

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

Danger levels

1 low

2 moderate

3 consider.

4 high

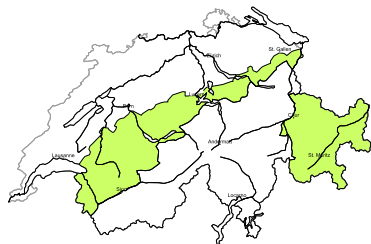
5 very high



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Dry, region B

Level 1, low



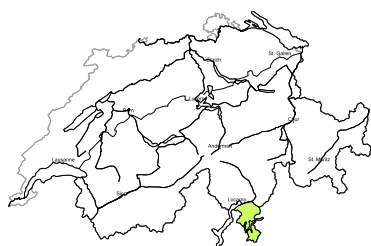
Favourable situation

Fresh and somewhat older snow drift accumulations are in individual cases still prone to triggering in particular on shady slopes at elevated altitudes. They are to be evaluated with care and prudence in extremely steep terrain. 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)

Dry, region C

Level 1, low



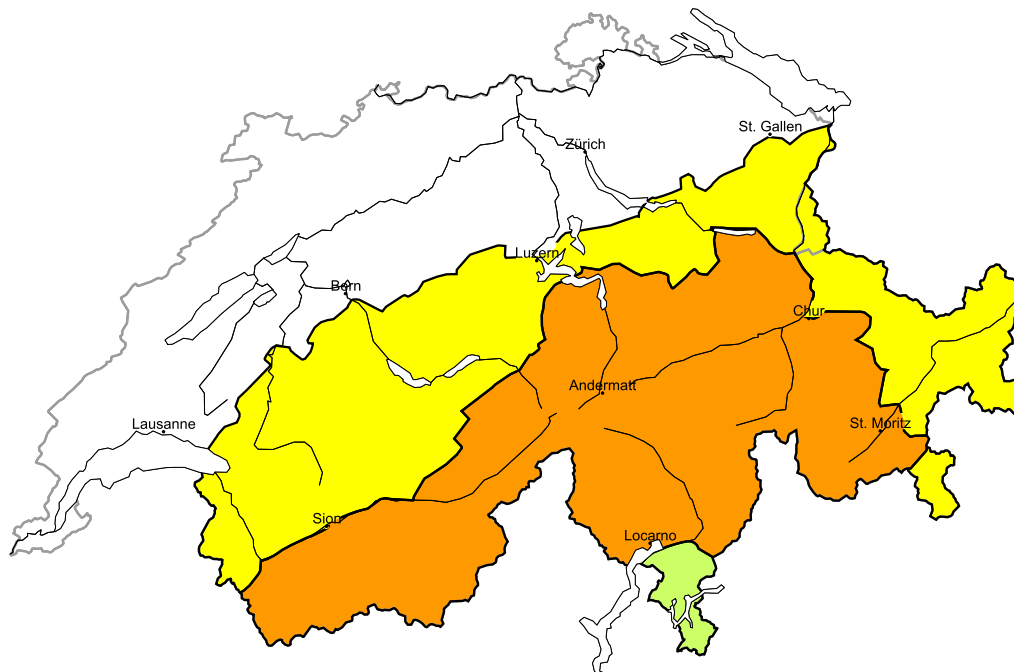
Favourable situation

Only a little snow is lying. The early morning will see favourable avalanche conditions.

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

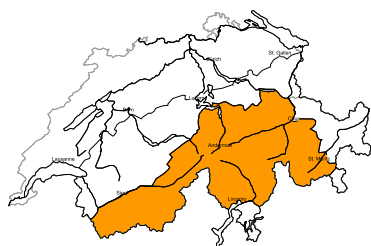
Wet avalanches as day progresses

updated on 10.4.2016, 08:00



Wet, region A

Level 3, considerable



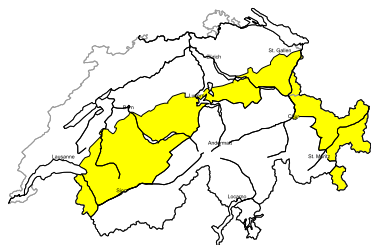
Wet avalanches as day progresses

As the day progresses as a consequence of warming during the day and solar radiation there will be a rapid increase in the danger of moist and wet avalanches. Small and medium-sized avalanches are to be expected. This applies in particular on very steep east, south and west facing slopes below approximately 3000 m as well as on north facing slopes below approximately 2400 m. Backcountry tours, off-piste skiing and ascents to alpine cabins should be started early and concluded timely.

Additional danger: Dry avalanches (see 1st map)

Wet, region B

Level 2, moderate



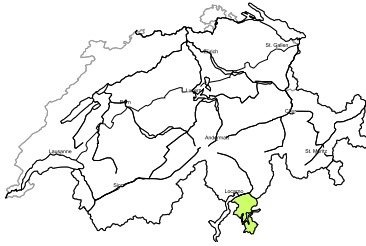
Wet avalanches as day progresses

As the day progresses as a consequence of warming during the day and solar radiation there will be a rapid increase in the danger of moist and wet avalanches. Small and, in isolated cases, medium-sized avalanches are possible. This applies in particular on very steep east, south and west facing slopes below approximately 3000 m as well as on north facing slopes below approximately 2400 m. Backcountry tours, off-piste skiing and ascents to alpine cabins should be concluded timely.

Additional danger: Dry avalanches (see 1st map)

Wet, region C

Level 1, low



Wet avalanches as day progresses

On extremely steep north facing slopes small wet snow slides are possible as the day progresses.

Additional danger: Dry avalanches (see 1st map)

Snowpack and weather

updated on 9.4.2016, 17:00

Snowpack

As a result of the progressively rising daytime temperatures and the corresponding moistening process of last weekend's the layer of fresh fallen snow mixed with dust from the Sahara desert which then unfolds, the fresh fallen snow of the last two days can easily slide away as an overall mass, more than anywhere else in the major areas of precipitation. This scenario is particularly threatening in high altitude and high alpine zones.

Beneath the layer of new fallen snow, the old snowpack surface was already thoroughly wet up to approximately 2400 m on north-facing slopes, up to approximately 3000 m on steep, south-facing slopes. As a consequence of the dropping temperatures which in their wake caused the snowpack to cool, the surface tends to form a crust capable of bearing loads. This crust will subsequently soften up again in many places over the course of the day on Sunday.

There still exists an area-wide old snow cover above 1400 to 1800 m on north-facing slopes, approximately 500 m higher up on south-facing slopes.

Observed weather on Saturday, 9.4.2016

Skies last night were heavily overcast and there was some precipitation in western and in southern regions which was heavy in certain places in the southern Upper Valais. During the daytime today, it was quite sunny in southern regions. In the other regions of Switzerland, skies were cloudy below 2500 m, above that altitude it was quite sunny.

Fresh snow

Between Thursday evening and Saturday morning above approximately 1800 m in northern regions, and above approximately 2400 m in southern regions, the following amounts of fresh fallen snow were registered:

- Main Alpine Ridge from Saas Fee to San Bernardino, northern Ticino, valleys of Maggia, Surselva: 30 to 40 cm;
- remaining parts of the central and eastern sectors of the northern flank of the Alps not including the Prealps, Hasli valleys, remaining parts of southern Valais, Aletsch region, remaining parts of central Ticino, Val Calanca, Val Moesa, remaining parts of central Grisons: 15 to 30 cm;
- remaining parts of Switzerland: 5 to 15 cm; less in the Engadine south of the Inn.

Temperature

At midday at 2000 m, between -3 °C in northern regions and +3 °C in southern regions.

Wind

Winds were northeasterly, blowing at moderate strength in some places of the Prealps and in the central sector of the Main Alpine Ridge; in the other regions, winds were light for the most part.

Weather forecast through Sunday, 10.4.2016

On Saturday night, skies will clear up in southwestern regions, skies in northeastern regions will not clear up until the early morning hours on Sunday. Subsequently during the daytime, it will be sunny.

Fresh snow

-

Temperature

At midday at 2000 m, +3 °C.

Wind

Winds will be southerly, blowing predominantly at light strength.

Outlook through Tuesday, 12.4.2016

Monday

On Sunday night, skies will be clear. On Monday during the daytime, a new foehn-wind scenario will take over. From the southwest, cloud cover will move in and during the afternoon, some precipitation is anticipated in southern regions and on the Main Alpine Ridge of the Valais. In northeastern regions sunny skies will persist until evening. At high altitudes more than anywhere else, the old snow will be whipped up and transported. During the course of the day, the danger both of dry-snow avalanches and of wet-snow avalanches will increase.

Tuesday

On Tuesday, skies will be variably cloudy accompanied by a few showers, but also interspersed with sunny intervals. The hazards of dry-snow avalanches are not expected to change significantly. The hazards of wet-snow avalanches are expected to increase somewhat during the course of the day.