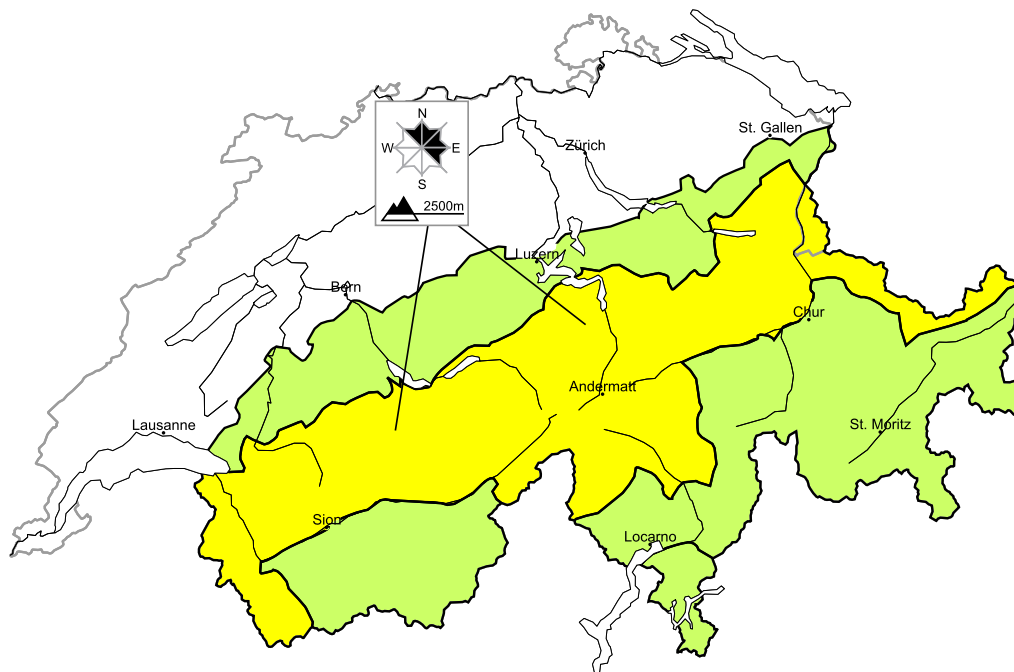


Moderate avalanche danger will be encountered in some regions

Edition: 13.4.2016, 17:00 / Next update: 14.4.2016, 17:00

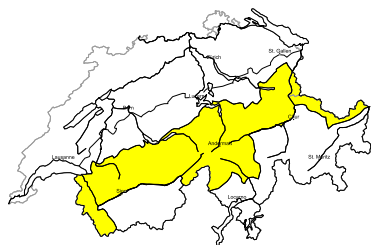
Dry avalanches

updated on 13.4.2016, 17:00



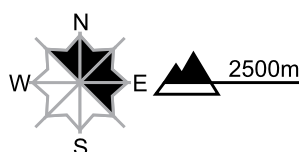
Dry, region A

Level 2, moderate



Fresh snow and snow drifts

Avalanche prone locations





Danger description


As a consequence of fresh snow and wind snow drift accumulations will form. These are mostly small but in some cases prone to triggering. At elevated altitudes the prevalence and size of the avalanche prone locations will increase. Backcountry touring calls for careful route selection.

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


Danger levels

 1 low

 2 moderate

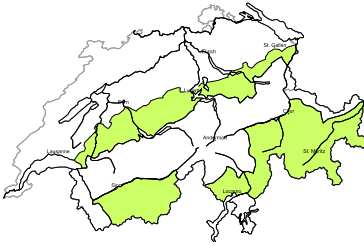
 3 consider.

 4 high

 5 very high



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Dry, region B**Level 1, low****Snow drifts**

The more recent snow drift accumulations represent the main danger. They are small but in some cases prone to triggering. In high Alpine regions avalanche prone locations are a little more prevalent and the danger is slightly greater. The snow drift accumulations are to be evaluated with care and prudence in particular 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)

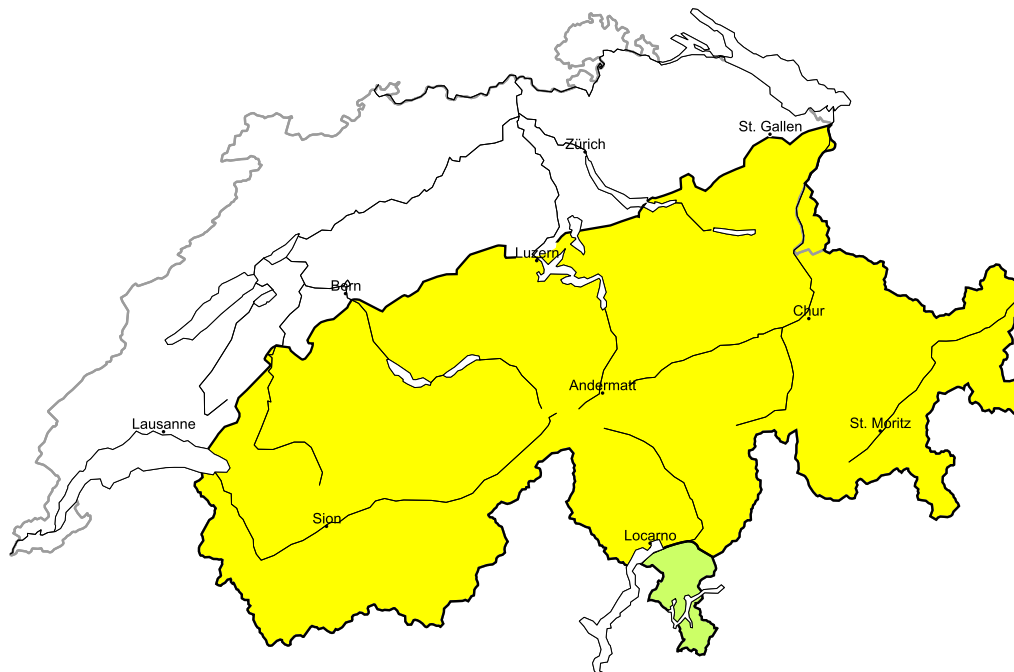
Dry, region C**Level 1, low****Favourable situation**

Individual avalanche prone locations are to be found on extremely steep shady slopes.

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

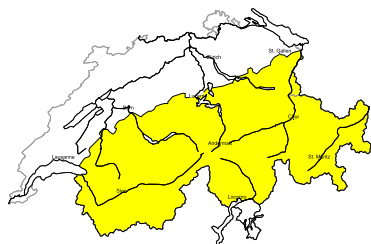
Wet avalanches as day progresses

updated on 13.4.2016, 17:00



Wet, region A

Level 2, moderate



Wet avalanches as day progresses

As a consequence of warming during the day and solar radiation there will be an increase in the danger of wet and full-depth avalanches. In the regions exposed to precipitation numerous moist loose snow avalanches are to be expected. 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 2500 m. Backcountry tours, off-piste skiing and ascents to alpine cabins should be started early and concluded timely. Southern Upper Valais, northern Ticino, central and southern Grisons: In some places wet avalanches can penetrate even deep layers. This applies especially on very steep north facing slopes.

Additional danger: Dry avalanches (see 1st map)

Wet, region B

Level 1, low



Wet avalanches as day progresses

A little snow is lying. In particular on extremely steep north facing slopes small wet snow slides are possible.

Additional danger: Dry avalanches (see 1st map)

Snowpack and weather

updated on 13.4.2016, 17:00

Snowpack

As a result of fresh fallen snow and the currently prevailing winds, fresh snowdrift accumulations are forming at high altitudes. The snowdrift accumulations which are now somewhat older presently are amassed in high alpine regions more than anywhere else. The old snow cover is favourably structured for the most part. The snowpack is thoroughly wet below approximately 2500 m on north-facing slopes, below approximately 3000 m on steep, south-facing slopes. In southern Upper Valais, in northern Ticino, in the inneralpine regions of Grisons, in the Engadine and in the southern valleys of Grisons, the more deeply embedded layers inside the snowpack on north-facing slopes are riddled with unbonded, loosely-packed and faceted snow crystals in some places, which weaken the entire snowpack. In those regions more than anywhere else, wet avalanches can fracture down to those ground-level layers, release, and subsequently sweep along the entire snowpack.

On north-facing slopes over widespread areas there is still an area-wide snowpack above 1400 to 1800 m, on south-facing slopes approximately 500 m further up, from place to place as much as 1000 m further up.

Observed weather on Wednesday, 13.4.2016

Skies in northern regions last night were partly overcast. In southern regions skies were heavily overcast by and large and there was a small amount of snowfall above approximately 2000 m. During the daytime in central Valais and in eastern regions, it was partly sunny to begin with, then became increasingly overcast in the afternoon. In the remaining regions of Switzerland skies were predominantly overcast accompanied by showers. The snowfall level in southern regions was at 2000m, in northern regions the snowfall level descended during the course of the day down to approximately 1600 m.

Fresh snow

Between Monday afternoon and Wednesday afternoon, the following amounts of fresh fallen snow, which fell mostly in the form of showers, were registered above approximately 2200 m:

- southern Simplon region, northern Ticino: 10 to 20 cm; in the Bedretto from place to place, 30 cm;
- Chablais, remaining parts of the Valais sector of the Main Alpine Ridge, remaining parts of Gotthard region and remaining parts of the central sector of the southern flank of the Alps: 5 to 10 cm;
- in other regions of Switzerland, only a few centimeters or else it remained dry.

Temperature

At midday at 2000 m, between 0 °C in western and southern regions and +3 °C in eastern regions.

Wind

Winds at high altitudes were southerly, blowing at moderate to strong velocity, in other regions at light to moderate strength. Then during the course of the day, winds in the Prealps were blowing at moderate strength from westerly directions.

Weather forecast through Thursday, 14.4.2016

Skies tonight will be overcast for the most part and snowfall is expected over widespread areas in northern regions above approximately 1500 m. During the daytime on Thursday in southern regions, it will be predominantly sunny. In northern regions skies will still be overcast, in eastern regions accompanied by the final round of precipitation. Subsequently from the west, it will turn increasingly sunny, accompanied by convective cloud build-up during the afternoon.

Fresh snow

The following amounts of fresh fallen snow are anticipated above approximately 2000 m:

- northern flank of the Alps, 10 to 20 cm; from place to place, as much as 30 cm;
- Lower Valais, northern Grisons, 5 to 15 cm;
- in the other regions of Switzerland, only a few centimeters.

Temperature

At midday at 2000 m, 0 °C in northern regions and +2 °C in southern regions.

Wind

Winds will be westerly to northwesterly, blowing at moderate strength at high altitudes, then blowing at strong velocity during the night.

Outlook through Saturday, 16.4.2016

On both days, conditions are expected to remain variable, interspersed with occasional sunny intervals. The snowfall level will be at 2000 m. Winds will shift to southerly and be blowing at moderate to strong velocity at high altitudes. The hazards of dry-snow avalanches are not expected to change significantly. The hazards of wet-snow avalanches are expected to increase during the course of each day as a consequence of solar radiation.