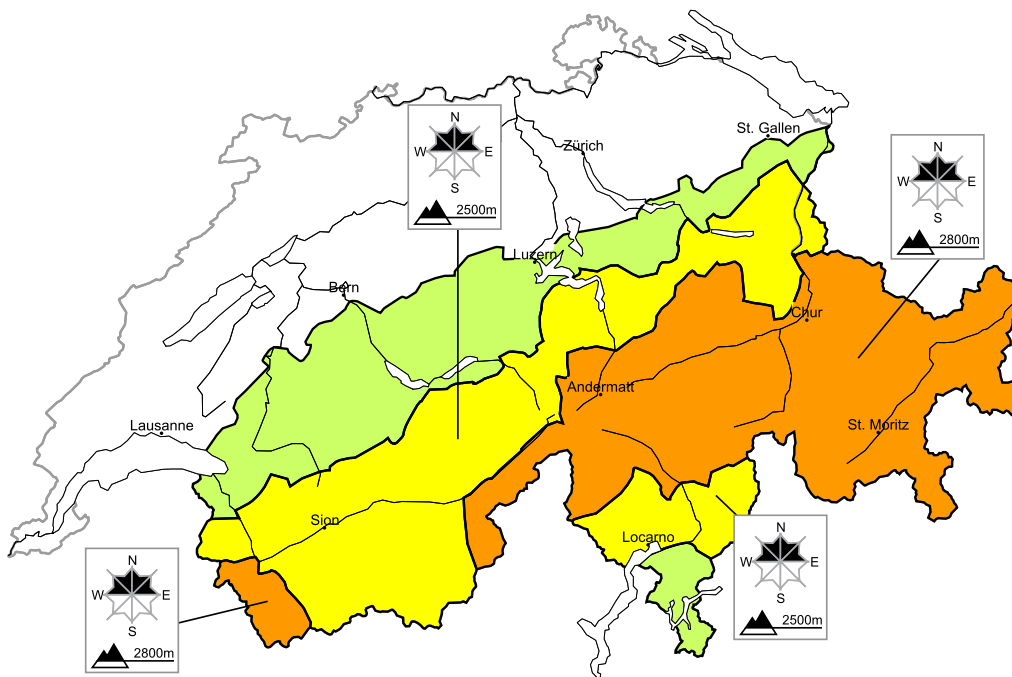


# Snow drift accumulations at elevated altitudes. Moist and west avalanches as the day progresses

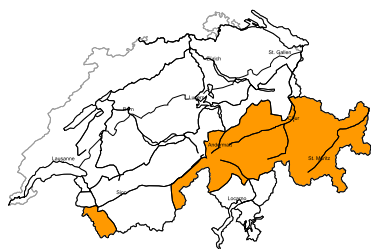
Edition: 19.4.2016, 17:00 / Next update: 20.4.2016, 17:00

## Dry avalanches

updated on 19.4.2016, 17:00

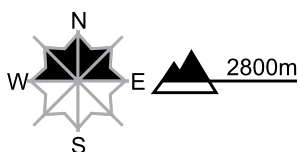


|                      |                              |
|----------------------|------------------------------|
| <b>Dry, region A</b> | <b>Level 3, considerable</b> |
|----------------------|------------------------------|



### Snow drifts

#### Avalanche prone locations



#### Danger description

The snow drift accumulations of the last few days represent the main danger. Avalanches can be released by a single winter sport participant and reach medium size. Backcountry touring calls for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger.

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

**Danger levels**

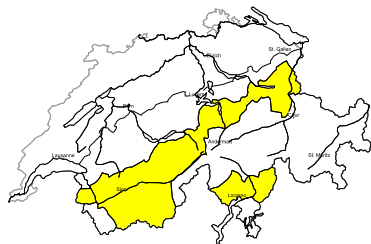
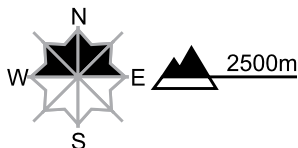
1 low

2 moderate

3 consider.

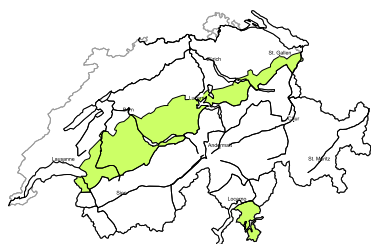
4 high

5 very high

**Dry, region B****Level 2, moderate****Snow drifts****Avalanche prone locations****Danger description**

The snow drift accumulations of the last two days represent the main danger. Avalanches can in some places be released, even by a single winter sport participant, but they will be small in most cases. The number and size of avalanche prone locations will increase with altitude. In high Alpine regions the avalanche prone locations are to be found in all aspects. 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. Backcountry touring calls for careful route selection.

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

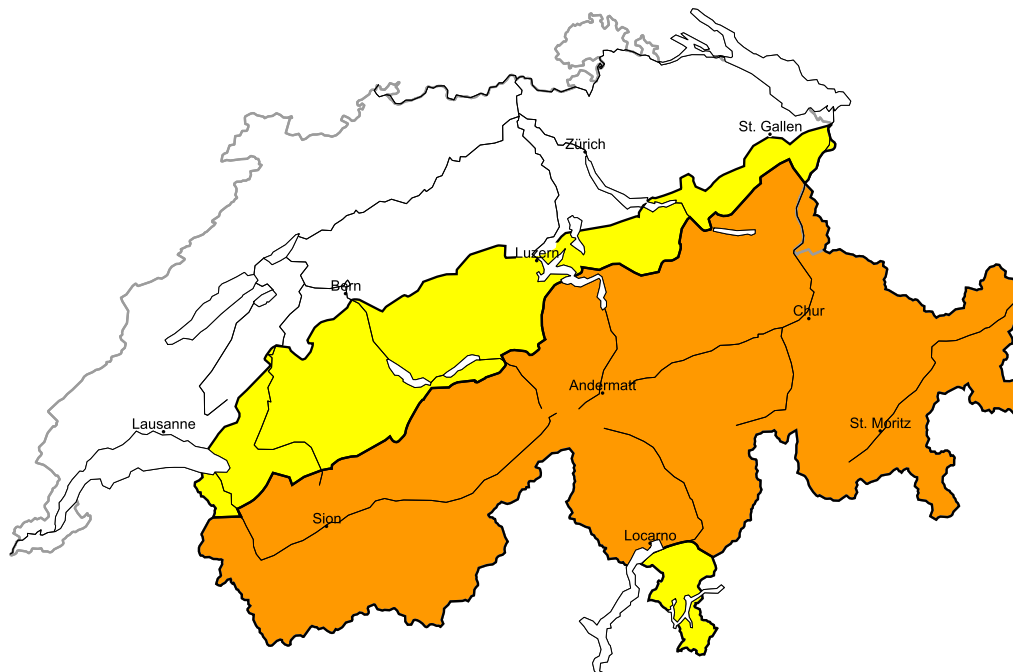
**Dry, region C****Level 1, low****Snow drifts**

Individual avalanche prone locations for dry avalanches are to be found especially 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)**

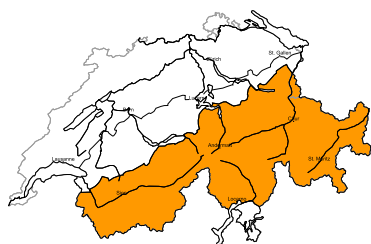
# Wet avalanches as day progresses

updated on 19.4.2016, 17:00



## Wet, region A

Level 3, considerable



### Wet avalanches as day progresses

As a consequence of warming during the day and solar radiation small and medium-sized moist and west avalanches are to be expected. This applies in all aspects. Backcountry tours 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 a consequence of warming during the day and solar radiation mostly small moist and west avalanches are to be expected. This applies in all aspects.

**Additional danger: Dry avalanches (see 1st map)**

Danger levels

1 low

2 moderate

3 consider.

4 high

5 very high



WSL Institute for Snow and  
Avalanche Research SLF  
www.slf.ch

## Snowpack and weather

updated on 19.4.2016, 17:00

### Snowpack

Snow fell heavily in the south from Saturday evening until Monday evening. The large quantities of snow are increasingly settling and becoming more stable.

As a consequence of sometimes strong winds, snow drift accumulations have formed in the last two days. In particular on north facing slopes in the high Alpine regions, these remain prone to triggering.

The bonding of the old snowpack is favourable over a wide area. Apart from the fresh snow and snow drift accumulations, the snowpack is moist all the way through below approximately 2500 m on north facing slopes and 3000 m on steep south facing slopes. In southern Upper Valais, northern Ticino, the inneralpine regions of Grisons, Engadine, and the Grisons southern valleys, near-ground layers of the snowpack on north facing slopes are faceted and, in some cases, weak. Here in particular, wet snow avalanches on north facing slopes can release the entire snowpack.

As a consequence of both significant warming and solar radiation, numerous snow slides and avalanches are to be expected in all regions.

### Observed weather on Tuesday, 19.4.2016

In the first half of the night the precipitation ceased in the east as well, and the skies cleared from the west. The weather was sunny for the whole day in the west and south, and from the afternoon in the east.

#### Fresh snow

The following amounts of snow fell above approximately 2000 m in the period from Monday afternoon until Tuesday morning:

- Gotthard region, eastern part of the northern flank of the Alps, Bernina region: 20 to 30 cm
- Western Lower Valais, Simplon region, Goms, central part of the northern flank of the Alps, southern flank of the Alps, rest of Grisons: 10 to 20 cm, but smaller amounts elsewhere

#### Temperature

At midday at 2000 m: between +3 °C in the west and south, and -1 °C in the east

#### Wind

Moderate to strong during the night, light to moderate during the day, from the north

### Weather forecast through Wednesday, 20.4.2016

After a clear night, the day will be sunny.

#### Fresh snow

-

#### Temperature

At midday the zero degree level will be about 3300 m in the west and south, and around 2600 m in the east, but rising further in the afternoon

#### Wind

Mostly light from the north

### Outlook through Friday, 22.4.2016

#### Thursday

Wednesday night will be clear in the east, but only partly clear in the west. During the day it will be quite sunny at first before cloud builds up from the southwest. The danger of dry avalanches will decrease. The danger of wet snow and full-depth avalanches will vary during the day. Backcountry touring and ascents to refuges are to be concluded early in the day.

#### Friday

It will be mostly very cloudy and some snow will fall above approximately 1800 m. At high altitudes the danger of dry avalanches may increase a little in some regions.

#### Current avalanche bulletin

Internet [www.slf.ch](http://www.slf.ch)  
App White Risk  
(iPhone, Android)

#### Feedback to avalanche warners

(Avalanche released? Bulletin inaccurate?)  
Questionnaire [www.slf.ch](http://www.slf.ch)  
E-Mail [lwp@slf.ch](mailto:lwp@slf.ch)  
Toll-free phone number 0800 800 187

#### Additional specialized federal departments

MeteoSwiss (weather) / [www.meteoswiss.ch](http://www.meteoswiss.ch) –  
Alpine weather report: tel. 0900 162 138 (CHF 1.20/min., in German)  
FOEN (flood, forest fire) / [www.bafu.admin.ch](http://www.bafu.admin.ch)  
SED (Earthquakes) / [www.seismo.ethz.ch](http://www.seismo.ethz.ch)



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