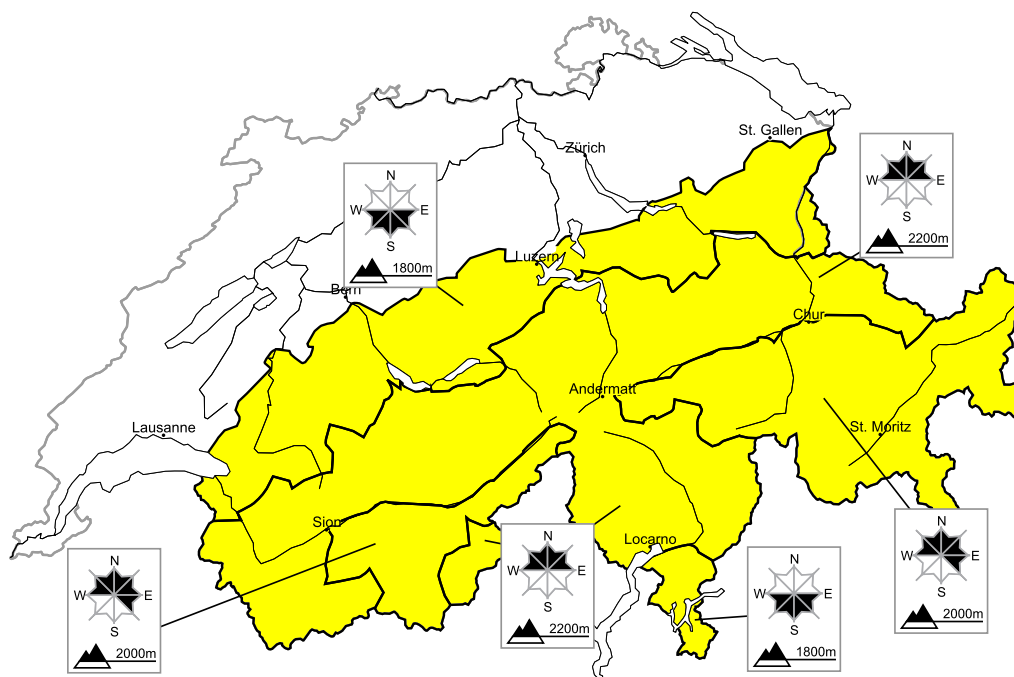


# Moderate avalanche danger will prevail. Wet avalanches as the day progresses

Edition: 16.3.2017, 08:00 / Next update: 16.3.2017, 17:00

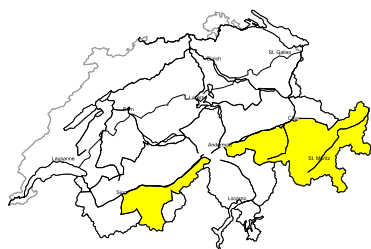
## Avalanche danger

updated on 16.3.2017, 08:00



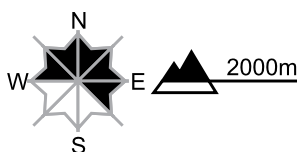
### region A

### Level 2, moderate



#### Old snow

#### Avalanche prone locations



#### Danger description

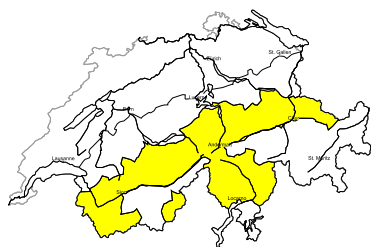
Avalanches can be released in deep layers, even by small loads in isolated cases, in particular in areas where the snow cover is rather shallow. The avalanche prone locations are rare but barely recognisable, even to the trained eye. Avalanches can reach medium size. Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for defensive route selection. Steep shady slopes are to be traversed by snow sport participants one at a time.

#### Wet avalanches as day progresses

On very steep sunny slopes mostly small full-depth and wet avalanches are to be expected as a consequence of warming during the day and solar radiation. Medium-sized avalanches are possible in the west.

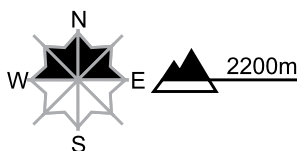
**region B**

**Level 2, moderate**



**Old snow**

**Avalanche prone locations**



**Danger description**

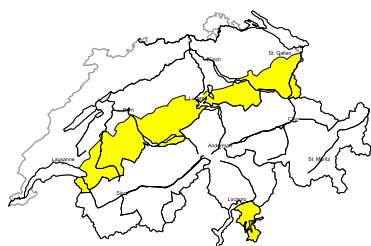
Avalanches can be released in deep layers, in particular by large additional loads, especially in areas where the snow cover is rather shallow. The avalanche prone locations are rare but barely recognisable, even to the trained eye. Avalanches can in isolated cases reach medium size. Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for careful route selection.

**Wet avalanches as day progresses**

On very steep sunny slopes mostly small full-depth and wet avalanches are to be expected as a consequence of warming during the day and solar radiation. Medium-sized avalanches are possible in the west.

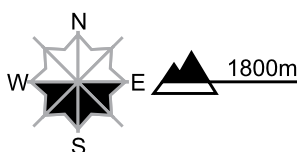
**region C**

**Level 2, moderate**



**Wet avalanches as day progresses**

**Avalanche prone locations**



**Danger description**

A clear night will be followed in the early morning by favourable conditions. As the day progresses on very steep sunny slopes there will be an increase in the avalanche danger. Small full-depth and wet avalanches are to be expected.

## Snowpack and weather

updated on 15.3.2017, 17:00

### Snowpack

As a result of strong-velocity northerly winds in some places, small-sized snowdrift accumulations have been created in high alpine regions, particularly in areas adjacent to ridgelines.

More deeply embedded inside the snow cover, in particular on shady slopes between 2200 and 2800 m, weak layers consisting of faceted-crystal snow threaten. These weakened layers are currently blanketed over with only shallow snow in the inneralpine regions of the Valais and Grisons, more than anywhere else, and thus, are still prone to triggering. North of an imaginary Rhine-Rhone line, fractures down to more deeply embedded layers of the snowpack are now unlikely. In these regions the snowpack has stabilised adequately in the interim as a result of the deep layers of fresh fallen and drifted snow of last week.

Below approximately 2000 m, the snow cover is thoroughly wet; and on steep south-facing slopes the snowpack is superficially moist up to over 2500 m. During nights with clear skies the moist snowpack stabilises. During the course of the day on steep, sunny slopes, wet-snow avalanches can be expected as the melt-freeze crust softens and subsequently melts.

### Observed weather on Wednesday, 15.3.2017

Following a night of predominantly clear skies it was variably cloudy in northern regions, accompanied by high-altitude cloudbanks. In southern regions skies were overcast.

#### Fresh snow

-

#### Temperature

At midday at 2000 m, between +7 °C in western and southern regions; and +4 °C in eastern regions.

#### Wind

Winds were blowing at moderate strength from northerly directions over widespread areas until morning, subsequently slackening off.

### Weather forecast through Thursday, 16.3.2017

On Wednesday night skies will be predominantly clear. During the day on Thursday it will be sunny.

#### Fresh snow

-

#### Temperature

At midday at 2000 m, between +7 °C in western regions, and +5 °C in eastern and southern regions.

#### Wind

Winds will be northerly, for the most part blowing at light strength.

### Outlook through Saturday, 18.3.2017

#### Friday

Following a night of predominantly clear skies, it will initially be sunny. During the afternoon in northern regions, cloud cover will move in. A westerly to northwesterly wind will be blowing at strong velocity. The danger of dry-snow avalanches is not expected to change significantly. The danger of wet-snow avalanches will increase somewhat during the course of the day.

#### Saturday

Intensive snowfall is anticipated in northern regions, extending from the eastern part of the Bernese Oberland into the Glarner Alps. The snowfall level will descend from 1600 m down to nearly 1000 m. In southern regions skies will be variably cloudy, but it will remain dry. A strong-velocity westerly-to-northwesterly wind will be blowing. The danger of dry-snow avalanches will increase over widespread areas, significantly so in the major areas of precipitation.