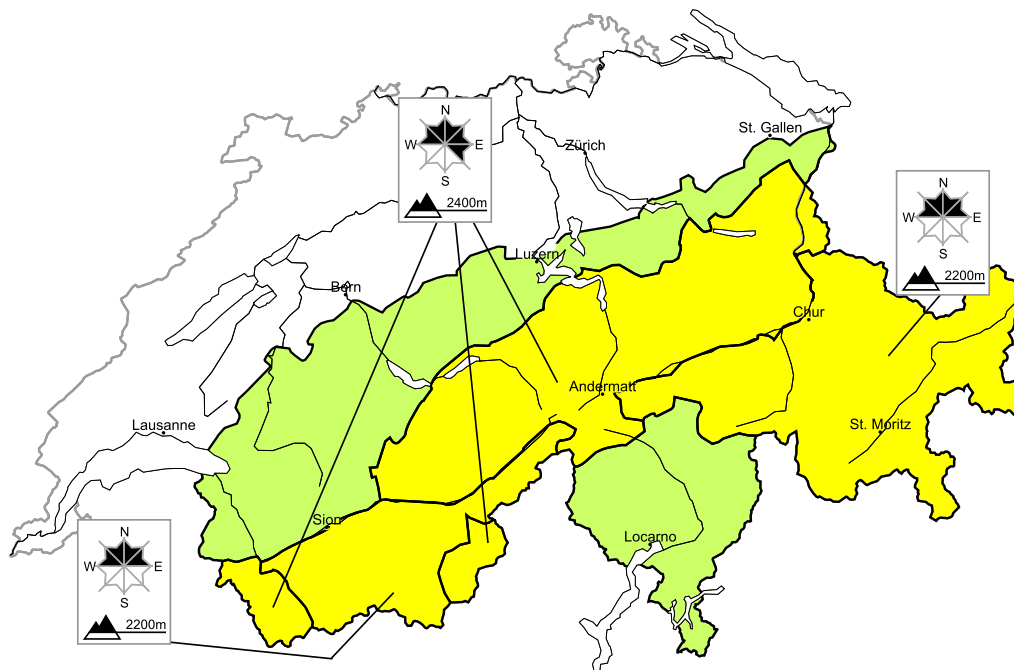


Moderate avalanche danger will be encountered in some regions

Edition: 21.3.2017, 08:00 / Next update: 21.3.2017, 17:00

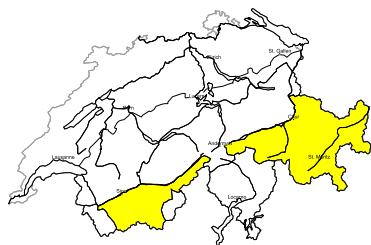
Avalanche danger

updated on 21.3.2017, 08:00



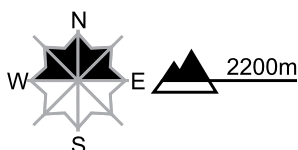
region A

Level 2, moderate



Old snow, snow drifts

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

Avalanches can be released in deep layers, even by small loads in isolated cases. Caution is to be exercised in particular on steep, rather lightly snow-covered shady slopes in little used backcountry terrain. The avalanche prone locations are rare but barely recognisable, even to the trained eye. Avalanches can reach medium size. Very steep slopes are to be traversed by snow sport participants one at a time.

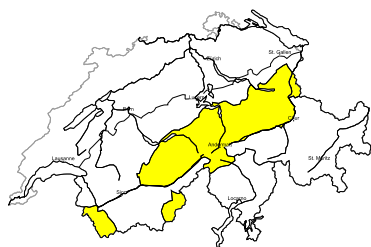
The snow drift accumulations of the weekend can still be released in some cases. These are to be found in particular adjacent to the ridge line and in gullies and bowls. They are to be evaluated with care and prudence in steep terrain.

Wet avalanches as day progresses

As a consequence of solar radiation individual small and, in isolated cases, medium-sized full-depth and wet avalanches are possible below approximately 2400 m, especially on very steep east and south facing slopes.

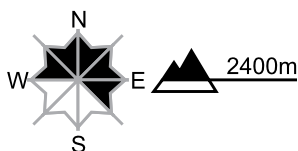
region B

Level 2, moderate



Snow drifts, old snow

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

The snow drift accumulations of the weekend are in individual cases still prone to triggering. These can especially at their margins be released by large loads. They are to be found in particular adjacent to the ridge line and in gullies and bowls. The snow drift accumulations are to be evaluated with care and prudence in steep terrain.

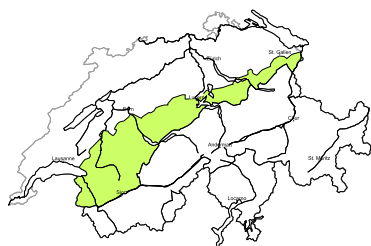
Additionally in very isolated cases avalanches can release deeper layers of the snowpack and reach medium size, especially on steep north facing slopes. These avalanche prone locations are rare but barely recognisable, even to the trained eye. Careful route selection is recommended.

Wet avalanches as day progresses

As a consequence of solar radiation individual mostly small full-depth and wet avalanches are possible below approximately 2400 m, especially on very steep east and south facing slopes.

region C

Level 1, low



Snow drifts

The snow drift accumulations of the weekend are to be evaluated with care and prudence especially in extremely steep terrain. Even a small avalanche can sweep snow sport participants along and give rise to falls.

Wet avalanches as day progresses

As a consequence of solar radiation individual moist snow slides and avalanches are possible. This applies on very steep sunny slopes below approximately 2400 m.

region D

Level 1, low



Favourable situation

Individual avalanche prone locations are to be found in particular in extremely steep terrain. Even a small avalanche can sweep snow sport participants along and give rise to falls.

Snowpack and weather

updated on 20.3.2017, 17:00

Snowpack

The weekend's fresh snow and snow drift accumulations have largely bonded. In some places, avalanches can still be triggered by large additional loads. During Monday night, when the skies will be clear at times and temperatures will drop significantly, the surface of the moist snow layers will freeze and, in many cases, become strong. In the morning these layers will soften a little under the influence of solar radiation, in particular on steep east and south facing slopes. Faceted weak layers exist deeper in the snowpack on north facing slopes above approximately 2200 m, but on some south facing slopes as well. These weak layers are near the surface in particular in the inneralpine regions of both Valais and Grisons, and therefore prone to triggering by people in some places, especially in north facing aspects. North of a line between the Rhone and Rhine, the weak layers are embedded so deep that they are now very unlikely to be released by people.

Observed weather on Monday, 20.3.2017

In the mountains the night skies were mostly clear. In the Prealps, low-level residual cloud impeded outgoing longwave radiation and cooling of the snow surface during the night. During the day, the weather in the mountains was mostly sunny.

Fresh snow

-

Temperature

At midday at 2000 m: +6 °C in the north and +8 °C in the south

Wind

From the west to southwest

- On the northern flank of the Alps, mostly moderate at elevated altitudes
- Otherwise mostly light

Weather forecast through Tuesday, 21.3.2017

On Monday night the skies will be clear at times. In the north fairly sunny weather will persist in the mountains in the morning, but it will become increasingly cloudy in the afternoon. The south will be overcast. In the late afternoon light precipitation will commence here.

Fresh snow

-

Temperature

At midday at 2000 m: -1 °C in the north and +1 °C in the south

Wind

Mostly moderate from the west to southwest, but sometimes strong in the high Alpine regions

Outlook through Thursday, 23.3.2017

The southern flank of the Alps will be overcast on each of the next two days and, in particular from the Simplon region to northern and central Ticino, frequent snowfalls are to be expected above 1400 to 1800 m, some of which will be heavy on Thursday in particular. The weather in the other regions will be changeable, but often very cloudy with a little precipitation and a snow fall level between 1000 and 1500 m. On Thursday afternoon the wind will be strong to storm force from the south. Central Valais and the north it will partly sunny under the influence of the foehn wind. The avalanche danger will increase, significantly on Thursday, in particular in the regions on the southern flank of the Alps that are exposed to heavier precipitation.