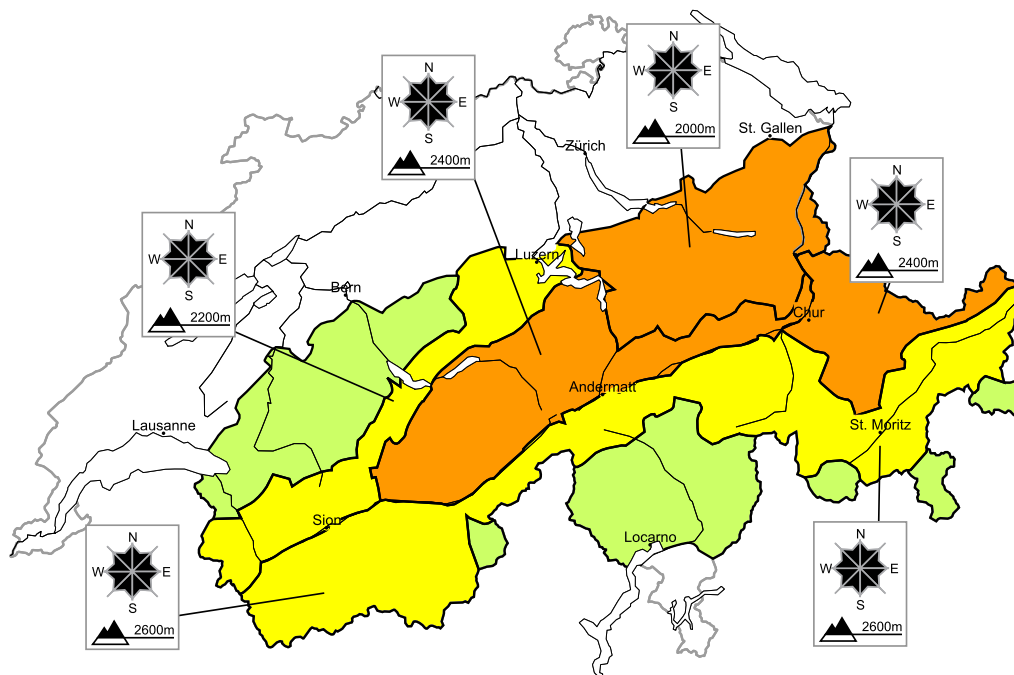


# Considerable avalanche danger will be encountered in some regions

Edition: 19.4.2017, 17:00 / Next update: 20.4.2017, 17:00

## Avalanche danger

updated on 19.4.2017, 17:00



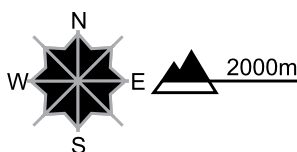
### region A

### Level 3, considerable



#### Fresh snow and snow drifts

##### Avalanche prone locations



##### Danger description

The fresh snow and snow drift accumulations of the last few days are prone to triggering. Single snow sport participants can release avalanches, including dangerously large ones. Individual natural dry avalanches are possible. Ski touring and other off-piste activities, including snowshoe hiking, call for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger and caution.

#### Wet avalanches as day progresses

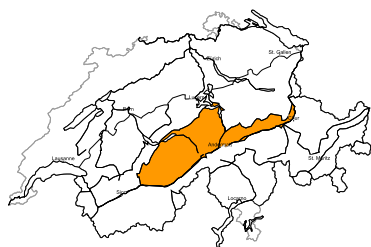
As a consequence of warming during the day and solar radiation numerous moist snow slides and avalanches are to be expected. This applies in particular on steep east, south and west facing slopes below approximately 2600 m.

#### Remarks

The next avalanche bulletin will appear on Thursday, 20 April at 17.00 h.

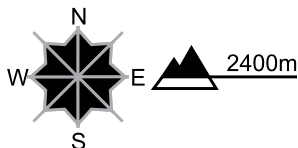
## region B

## Level 3, considerable



## Fresh snow and snow drifts

## Avalanche prone locations



## Danger description

The fresh snow and snow drift accumulations of the last few days are prone to triggering. Fresh snow drift accumulations are to be found in particular in gullies and bowls, and behind abrupt changes in the terrain. Even single snow sport participants can release avalanches. Backcountry touring calls for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger.

## Wet avalanches as day progresses

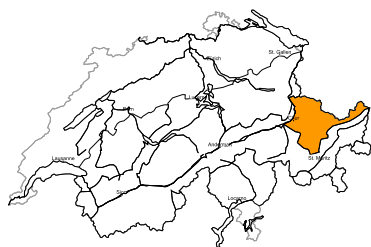
As a consequence of warming during the day and solar radiation numerous moist snow slides and avalanches are to be expected. This applies in particular on steep east, south and west facing slopes below approximately 2600 m.

## Remarks

The next avalanche bulletin will appear on Thursday, 20 April at 17.00 h.

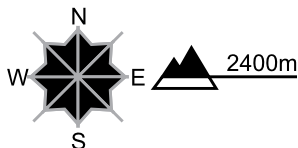
## region C

## Level 3, considerable



## Snow drifts, old snow

## Avalanche prone locations



## Danger description

The fresh snow and snow drift accumulations of the last few days can be released by a single winter sport participant in some cases. Fresh snow drift accumulations are to be found in particular in gullies and bowls, and behind abrupt changes in the terrain. Additionally in very isolated cases avalanches can penetrate near-ground layers of the snowpack and reach medium size. These avalanche prone locations are to be found in particular on little used, rather lightly snow-covered north facing slopes above approximately 2400 m.

Backcountry touring calls for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger and careful route selection.

## Wet avalanches as day progresses

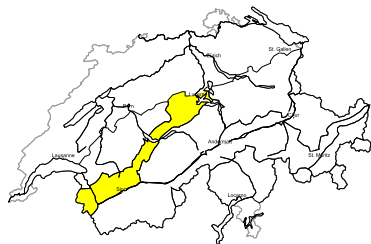
As a consequence of warming during the day and solar radiation moist snow slides and avalanches are possible. This applies in particular on steep east, south and west facing slopes below approximately 2600 m.

## Remarks

The next avalanche bulletin will appear on Thursday, 20 April at 17.00 h.

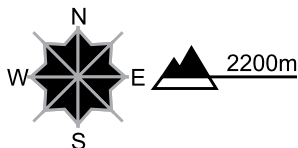
region D

Level 2, moderate



Snow drifts

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

The snow drift accumulations of the last few days represent the main danger. These are mostly only small but can in some cases be released easily. They are to be found in particular in gullies and bowls, and behind abrupt changes in the terrain. The number and size of avalanche prone locations will increase with altitude. Snow drift accumulations are to be evaluated with care and prudence.

Wet avalanches as day progresses

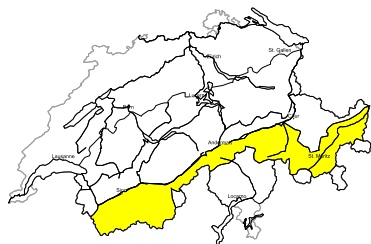
As a consequence of warming during the day and solar radiation moist snow slides and avalanches are possible. This applies in particular on steep east, south and west facing slopes below approximately 2600 m.

Remarks

The next avalanche bulletin will appear on Thursday, 20 April at 17.00 h.

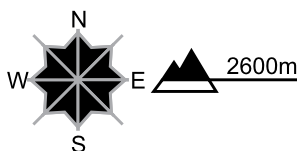
region E

Level 2, moderate



Snow drifts, old snow

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

The snow drift accumulations of the last few days represent the main danger. They are mostly small but can in some cases be released easily. The snow drift accumulations are to be found in particular in gullies and bowls, and behind abrupt changes in the terrain. They are to be evaluated with care and prudence in steep terrain.

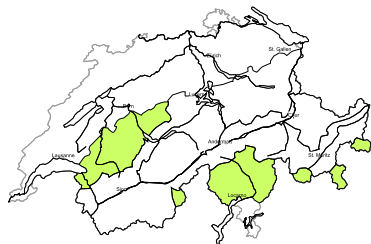
Additionally in very isolated cases avalanches can be released in deep layers and reach medium size. These avalanche prone locations are very rare but barely recognisable, even to the trained eye. They are to be found in particular on little used, rather lightly snow-covered north facing slopes above approximately 2400 m.

Remarks

The next avalanche bulletin will appear on Thursday, 20 April at 17.00 h.

## region F

## Level 1, low



## Snow drifts

Mostly small snow drift accumulations have formed. They are to be evaluated with care and prudence in particular in extreme 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.

## Remarks

The next avalanche bulletin will appear on Thursday, 20 April at 17.00 h.



## Snowpack and weather

updated on 19.4.2017, 17:00

### Snowpack

Since last weekend in northeastern regions, large amounts of fresh fallen snow have been registered and in many places large-sized snowdrift accumulations and cornices have formed or been deposited at high altitudes. As a result of the low temperatures, the fresh fallen snow is very loosely-packed and is consolidating only very slowly. As a consequence of the northeasterly winds, additional snowdrift accumulations are continuing to form. The most recently formed layers, more than anything else, are prone to triggering.

Deeply embedded inside the snow cover there are layers of faceted-crystal snow. These are most likely to be trigger-sensitive on the seldom-skied north-facing slopes of southern Valais and Grisons at altitudes between 2400 and 3000 m. Before the temperatures dropped and the snowfall commenced, the snowpack below approximately 2400 m on north-facing slopes, and below approximately 3000 m on steep, south-facing slopes, was thoroughly wet over widespread areas. Moist avalanches can be expected in the major areas of precipitation on steep, sunny slopes as well as on previously bare, steep, grass-covered slopes more than anywhere else.

### Observed weather on Wednesday, 19.4.2017

In the Vaud and Fribourg Alps, in the Valais and south of the Main Alpine Ridge it was predominantly sunny. In the remaining sectors of the northern flank of the Alps, an additional 30 to 60 cm of fresh fallen snow has been registered at high altitudes since Tuesday evening.

#### Fresh snow

Overall between Saturday afternoon and Wednesday afternoon, the following amounts of fresh fallen snow were registered above approximately 2000 m:

- central and eastern sectors of the northern flank of the Alps not including southern Urseren: 70 to 100 cm; from Schächental to the Walensee as much as 150 cm;
- eastern Bernese Oberland, northern Surselva, northern Grisons, Albulatal, northern Lower Engadine: 30 to 60 cm; from place to place as much as 70 cm;
- Vaud and Fribourg Alps, western Bernese Oberland, northern Valais, remaining parts of Gotthard region: 15 to 30 cm;
- in the other regions of Switzerland: 5 to 15 cm; in the furthestmost southern regions it remained dry.

#### Temperature

At midday at 2000 m, between -9 °C in northern regions and -6 °C in southern regions.

#### Wind

Winds were northerly, in the Alpine ridges and in Grisons blowing at moderate to strong velocity, in other regions blowing at light to moderate strength. On the southern flank of the Alps, winds were northerly, blowing at moderate to strong velocity and extending down to low-lying areas.

### Weather forecast through Thursday, 20.4.2017

On Wednesday night, the snow showers will come to an end in northern and eastern regions. During the daytime on Thursday, it will be predominantly sunny; only partly sunny in the eastern sector of the northern flank of the Alps and in northern Grisons as a result of low-lying cloud cover.

#### Fresh snow

Northern flank of the Alps, Grisons: 5 cm;

#### Temperature

Temperatures will rise starting in the southwest, at midday at 2000 m to -5 °C in western and southern regions; and -8 °C in eastern regions.

#### Wind

Winds will be northeasterly, blowing predominantly at moderate strength, blowing at moderate-to-strong velocity in the central sector of the Main Alpine Ridge and southwards therefrom, as well as in Grisons.

**Outlook** through Saturday, 22.4.2017

On Thursday night skies will be clear and during the daytime on Friday it will be predominantly sunny, accompanied by some cloudbanks in northeastern regions more than anywhere else. The zero-degree level will ascend to nearly 2000 m. On Friday night skies will be clear. During the daytime on Saturday it will be sunny, but become increasingly cloudy in northern regions during the course of the day. The danger of dry-snow avalanches is expected to diminish. As a result of solar radiation and daytime warming, the danger of wet-snow avalanches will increase during the course of the day, particularly in the major areas of recent precipitation.